KNIGHTS® VS SAMURAI

DAVID DASTMALCHIAN • FEDERICO MELE • ULISES ARREOLA

KNIGHTS® —VS— SAMURAI

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Knights vs Samurai #1, Cover 'A' by Raymond Gay

GOOD SWING, LITTLE BROTHER!
TWO MINUTES OLDER DOESN'T MAKE YOU "BIG", BROTHER!
MY UPSWING IS BIGGER, CHARLES!
YOUR BOASTING CERTAINLY IS!

RAAAAAAHHS!
NOT A TERRIBLE THROW, LITTLE-
WHAP
BENNETT!

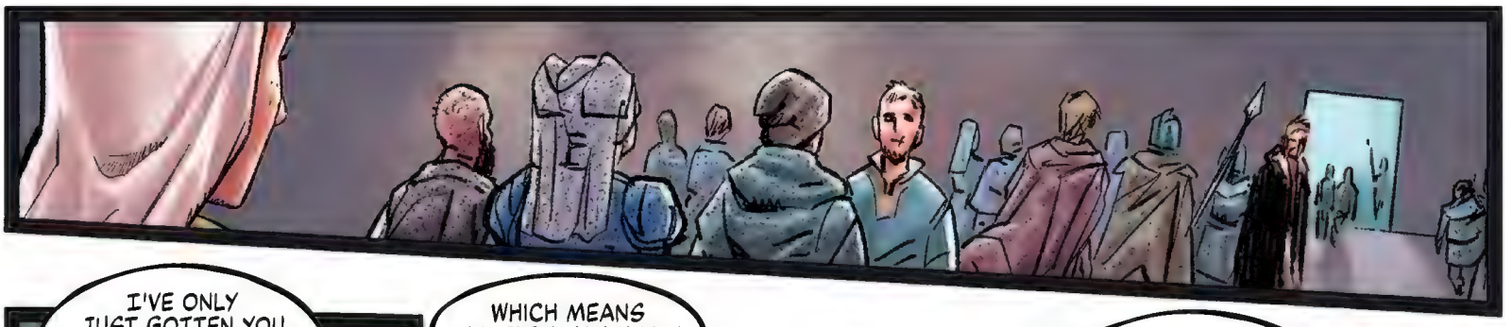
NO!
AHHHHH!
ARISE, LORD SLUMBER!
HOW CAN YOU EXPECT TO LEAD AN **ARMY** IF YOU'RE THE LAST ONE TO RISE EACH MORNING?
LEAD THEM? YOU'RE COMMANDER OF THE **ROYAL** LEGION. I'VE JUST BEEN KNIGHTED.
AND SLAIN A DRAGON. THE **DUKE** HAS A DELIBERATE EYE ON YOU.

NOW GO GET IN YOUR FORMALS FOR THE ACCOLADE.
IT FEELS... WRONG. TO TAKE MY **HONORS** WITHOUT BENNETT BY MY SIDE.
YOUR BROTHER WILL ***ALWAYS*** BE AT YOUR SIDE.
THE DUKE WILL CELEBRATE YOUR DEFEAT OF **PERSA** WITH SPLENDOR AND COMMENDATION.
HE'LL CERTAINLY CELEBRATE ***HIMSELF*** WITH SPLENDOR AND COMMENDATION.
CAREFUL WHOSE EARS ARE PRICKED WHEN YOU JEST. THE **DUKE** DOESN'T HAVE A LIGHT SENSE OF HUMOR...

HHHHAAAR HAAAAAAA!

BACK INTO THE WATERS OF HELL, SERPENT!
OUCH! THAT HURTS! WAAAAAAHHHHHH!
WONDERFUL! THANK YOU. AND EXCELLENT WORK MAKING ME LOOK SO HANDSOME. AND BRAVE. BUT, ALAS, IT'S QUITE EASY TO BE AS DARING AS I AM...
...WHEN I AM SURROUNDED BY THE GREATEST WARRIORS IN ALL OF CHRISTENDOM. IN ALL OF THE WORLD.
HUZZAH!
HEAR, HEAR!
HUZZAH!
WE HAVE SUFFERED FOR GENERATIONS UNDER THE TERROR OF THE DRAGONS... AND THOUGH WE CANNOT BE ASSURED OF THEIR ABSOLUTE EXTERMINATION...
WE HAVE DESTROYED THE LAST DRAGON OF THE NORTHERN SEA AND THEY ARE ON THE BRINK OF EXTINCTION!
HOOORAY!
YAYYYYYY!

OUR BRAVEST SOLDIER IN THIS VIRTUOUS BATTLE IS CHARLES WARD. HE HAS LOST MUCH IN THE NOBLE MISSION AND HIS GALLANTRY IS UNMATCHED.
YOU HAVE EARNED YOUR HONORS WITH COURAGE AND YOU SHALL EVER BE KNOWN AS SIR CHARLES. THE DRAGON BUTCHER!
I MUST SEE HIM! MY LORD...
BE STILL, SIR!
WHO DARES INTERRUPT?
MY DUKE, PLEASE... forgive my...
BAGGI! YOU'RE ALIVE!
FETCH THE DOCTORS AND CLERICS! BRING THEM TO THE COUNSEL HALL!



I'VE ONLY JUST GOTTEN YOU BACK FROM YOUR LAST **EXPEDITION**. I CAN'T HAVE YOU LEAVE YET.

LETS NOT GET AHEAD OF OURSELVES. I'M SURE IT'S SOMETHING **POLITICAL**-

WHICH MEANS MILITARY. YOU KNOW THAT, CHARLES.

WE'RE TO SELECT YOUR LAND **GRANT** THIS WEEK. OUR MANOR HOUSE. YOU NEED REST.

EMMA...

I'M AFRAID THERE WILL BE **LITTLE** OF THAT IN THE NEAR FUTURE...

EXCUSE ME, DEAR EMMA, BUT I MUST **TAKE** CHARLES TO THE COUNSEL HALL. THE DUKE HAS CALLED FOR HIM.

SIR CHARLES.

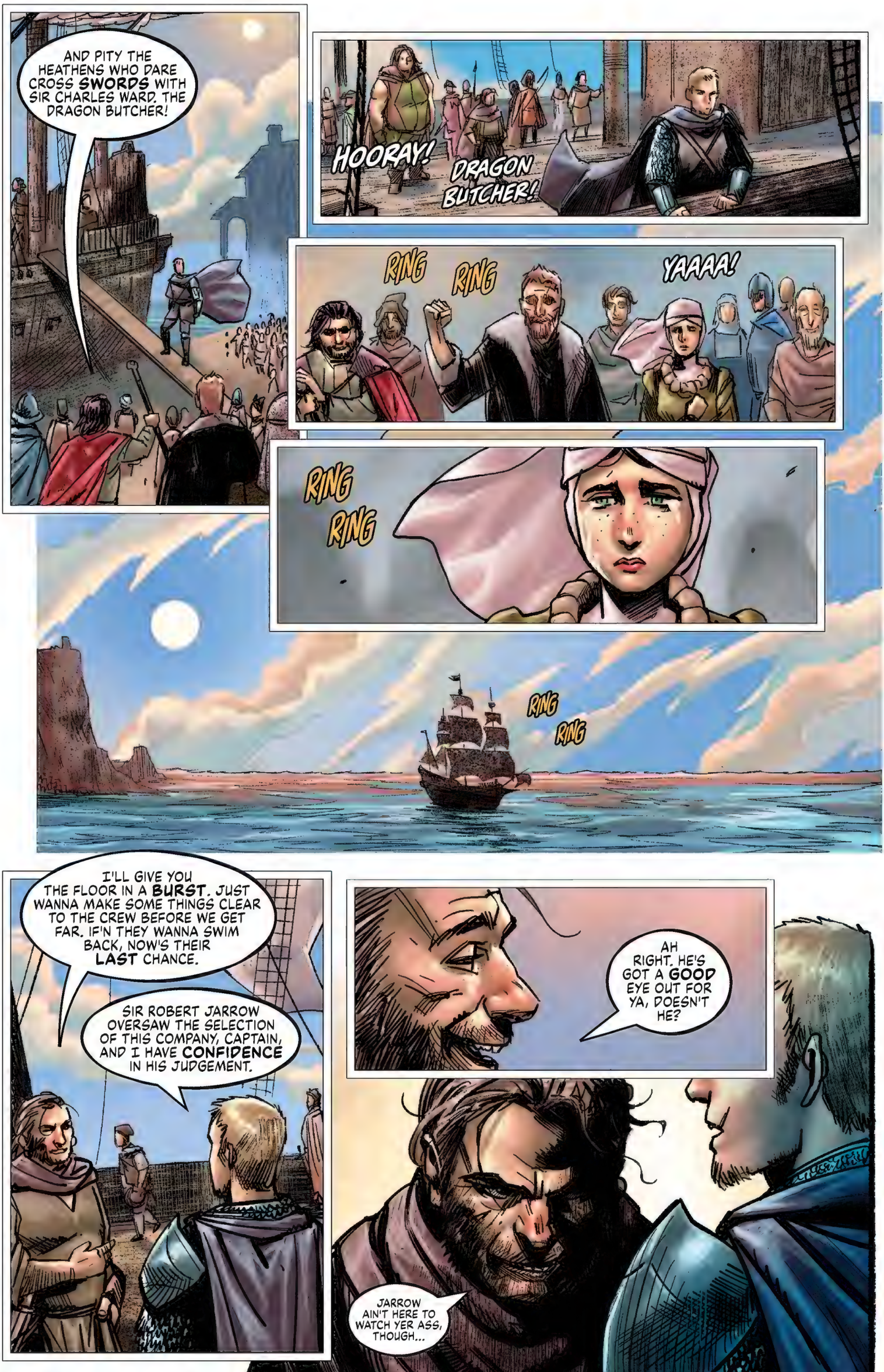
MY LORD.

DRAGON BUTCHER, WHAT I AM ABOUT TO TELL YOU IS **RESTRICTED** INFORMATION KNOWN TO FEW BEYOND THE QUEEN HERSELF.
YES, SIR.
I TRUST YOU WITH THIS. I TRUST YOU WITH MANY THINGS.
AND FOR THAT I AM GRATEFUL, MY LORD.
I NEED NOT YOUR GRATITUDE. I NEED YOUR **ATTENTION.** AND YOUR COMMITMENT.
I AM YOUR SERVANT, DUKE.
"IN OUR MISSION TO SPREAD THE MESSAGE OF **HOLY** GOODNESS, I INVESTED A GREAT DEAL OF MY OWN RESOURCES IN SENDING GOOD NEWS **MISSIONARIES** ON A QUEST EAST...
"MY MESSENGERS OF GOD WERE AMBUSHED AND **SLAUGHTERED** BY A LEGION OF DEPRAVED CREATURES ON AN ISLAND IN THE FURTHEST SEA EAST. THESE **BARBARIANS** ENSLAVE MEN, WOMEN... EVEN CHILDREN AND DEPRIVE THEM OF THE SACRED."

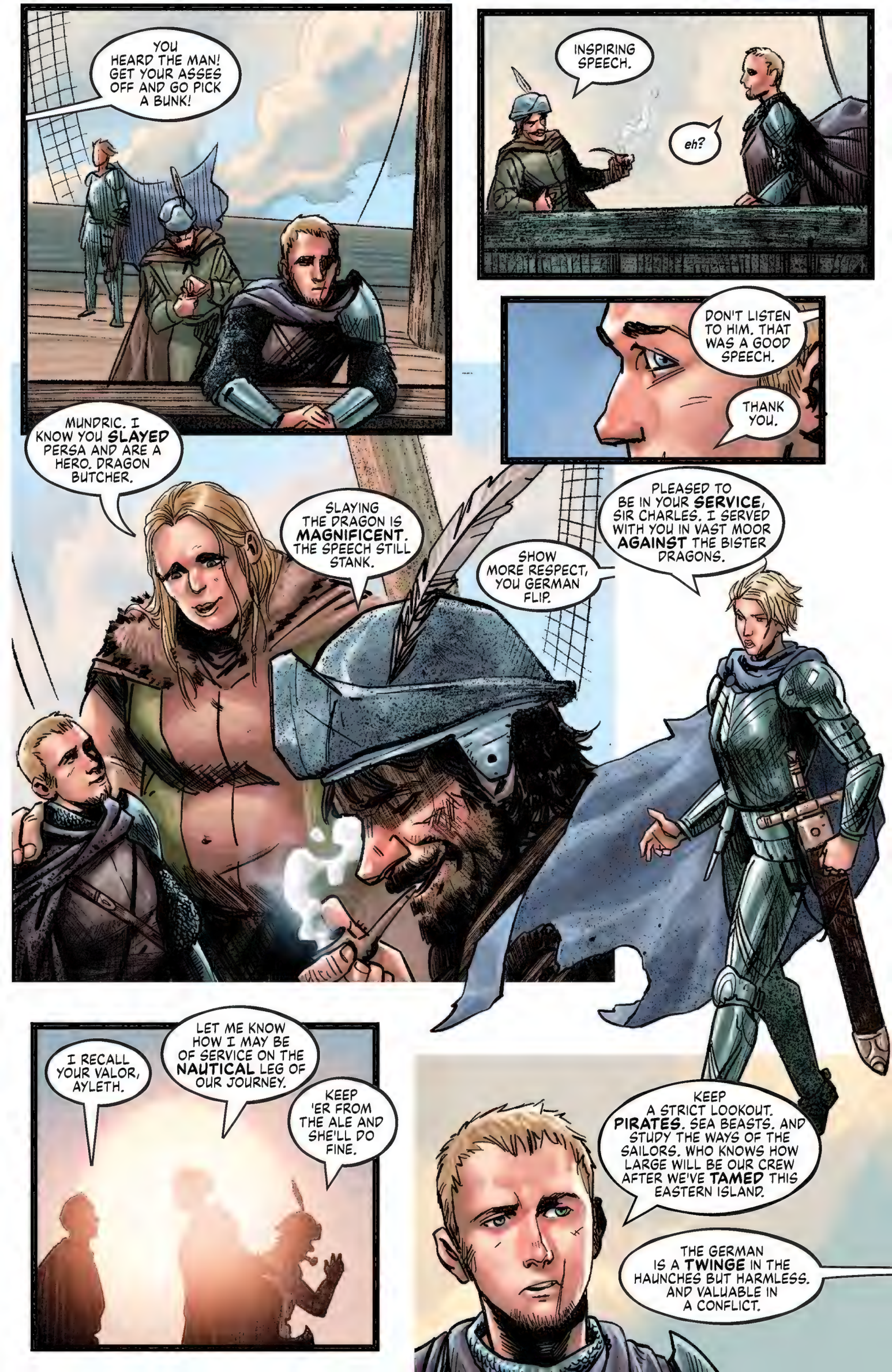
MY DEAR ADVISOR, BAGGI, ESCAPED WITH HIS LIFE AND MIRACULOUSLY RETURNED TO US. PRAISE THE DIVINE.
PRAISE THE DIVINE.
AND NOW I NEED YOU...
...TO LEAD A FORCE. TO DEFEAT THESE **CREATURES**. TO CREATE SAFETY. AND ONCE YOU HAVE ACHIEVED CONTROL OF THE AREA... SEND WORD TO ME SO THAT WE MAY SAFELY SEND OUR **MISSIONARIES** TO DO GOD'S WORK.
IT WILL BE MY HONOR.
THIS WAS TO BE THE MONTH WE SAW OUR HOME ERECTED.
AND YOU SHALL OVERSEE IT. I KNOW YOU'LL **CRACK** A STERNER WHIP ON THE MASON THAN I EVER COULD.
YOU FORGET THE PAINTER AND WOODWORKER, TOO. THEY'LL **QUAKE** AT THE SIGHT OF ME.
AS DO I. AND I'LL BE BACK BEFORE THE **FIRST** AUTUMN LEAF HAS LEFT A TREE.
YOU CAN'T PROMISE THAT, CHARLES.
I CAN PROMISE ANYTHING IF IT'S MADE TO YOU, **EMMA**. I KNOW NOTHING IN MY HEART IF NOT MY LOVE FOR YOU AND MY **HATRED** OF THE SERPENTS.
I'LL HAVE TIME ON THE **VOYAGE**. FOR NOW... NO REST.
AND THEY'RE **EXTINCT**. SO THAT MEANS I GET ALL OF YOUR HEARTS ATTENTION.
NEARLY EXTINCT.
YOU NEED **REST**, MY LOVE, IF YOUR JOURNEY BEGINS TOMORROW-

MORCART'S A BIT OF A PIRATE BUT HE'S A GOOD CAPTAIN. EXCITABLE, BUT KNOWS THE NORTHERN WATERS BETTER THAN ANY.
YOU'LL FOLLOW THE SAME PATH AS BAGGI'S MISSIONARIES, CUTTING ACROSS NORSE WATERS, THE KARA SEA AND EVENTUALLY TO THE FURTHEST EAST. THE DEVIL'S ISLAND DRIFTS THERE.
DEVIL'S ISLAND?
NAMED BY BAGGI'S MISSIONARIES.
AND WHO IS BAGGI TO THE DUKE?
HE IS ONE OF THE DUKE'S MOST TRUSTED SERVANTS. AND HE WILL BE YOUR GUIDE AND CUSTODIAN ON THIS JOURNEY.

I SEE THE CLERIC'S HAVE TENDED YOU WELL, BAGGI.
AS WELL AS THEY CAN MANAGE.
BAGGI WILL ASSIST WITH NAVIGATION AND ENSURE THE **SUCCESS** OF OUR MISSION.
MY LORD, ARE YOU CERTAIN HE'S UP FOR THE **VOYAGE**. HE'S ONLY JUST RETURNED FROM A MOST HARROWING-
AND WHEN YOU'VE REACHED THEDEVIL'S ISLAND AND **CONQUERED** THE BARBARIANS, BAGGI WILL SEND FOR OUR MISSIONARIES.
AND THEN YOU WILL BE HOME TO YOUR **FURNISHED** MANOR WHICH I WILL PERSONALLY ENSURE IS **COMPLETED** AT THE HIGHEST STANDARD!
YOU ARE TOO GRACIOUS, MY DUKE.
GOD SPEED, CHARLES WARD. MAY THE WINDS OF GOOD FORTUNE CARRY YOU SAFELY TO **SLAY** THE ENEMIES OF OUR LORD.


AND PITY THE HEATHENS WHO DARE CROSS SWORDS WITH SIR CHARLES WARD. THE DRAGON BUTCHER!
HOORAY!
DRAGON BUTCHER!
RING
RING
YAAAA!
RING
RING
RING
RING
I'LL GIVE YOU THE FLOOR IN A BURST. JUST WANNA MAKE SOME THINGS CLEAR TO THE CREW BEFORE WE GET FAR. IF'N THEY WANNA SWIM BACK, NOW'S THEIR LAST CHANCE.
SIR ROBERT JARROW OVERSAW THE SELECTION OF THIS COMPANY, CAPTAIN, AND I HAVE CONFIDENCE IN HIS JUDGEMENT.
AH RIGHT. HE'S GOT A GOOD EYE OUT FOR YA, DOESN'T HE?
JARROW AIN'T HERE TO WATCH YER ASS, THOUGH...

MY SHIP. UNDERSTOOD?
AYE.
MY RULES. UNDERSTOOD?
AYE.
WHAT I SAY, YOU DO. AND YOU ALWAYS THROW YOUR DUNG OVERBOARD. YOU NEVER LEAVE IT IN THE BUCKET. NO EXCEPTION. UNDERSTOOD?
AYE!
FLOOR'S YOURS, GENERALISSIMO.
MEN. AND-WOMEN. AND-ALL OF YOU. I AM GRATEFUL FOR YOUR SERVICE TO OUR MISSION. THE DUKE IS GRATEFUL FOR YOUR SERVICE. WE WILL MAKE OUR OPERATION SWEET AND-ER-
SWIFT. OUR OPERATION WILL BE SWIFT AND MEANINGFUL AND WE WILL BE HOME WITH OUR WIVES AND... HUSBANDS... OR-
snicker.
...YOUR FAMILY. VERY SOON. WHILE ON BOARD, CAPTAIN MORCART'S WORD IS TO BE OBSERVED AND I EXPECT NOTHING BUT YOUR BEST IN BOTH BATTLE AND ACTIVITY. AT EASE.


YOU HEARD THE MAN! GET YOUR ASSES OFF AND GO PICK A BUNK!
INSPIRING SPEECH.
eh?
DON'T LISTEN TO HIM. THAT WAS A GOOD SPEECH.
THANK YOU.
MUNDRIC. I KNOW YOU SLAYED PERSA AND ARE A HERO. DRAGON BUTCHER.
SLAYING THE DRAGON IS MAGNIFICENT. THE SPEECH STILL STANK.
SHOW MORE RESPECT, YOU GERMAN FLIP.
PLEASED TO BE IN YOUR SERVICE, SIR CHARLES. I SERVED WITH YOU IN VAST MOOR AGAINST THE BISTER DRAGONS.
I RECALL YOUR VALOR, AYLETH.
LET ME KNOW HOW I MAY BE OF SERVICE ON THE NAUTICAL LEG OF OUR JOURNEY.
KEEP 'ER FROM THE ALE AND SHE'LL DO FINE.
KEEP A STRICT LOOKOUT. PIRATES. SEA BEASTS. AND STUDY THE WAYS OF THE SAILORS. WHO KNOWS HOW LARGE WILL BE OUR CREW AFTER WE'VE TAMED THIS EASTERN ISLAND.
THE GERMAN IS A TWINGE IN THE HAUNCHES BUT HARMLESS. AND VALUABLE IN A CONFLICT.

WULFHELM IS ONE OF THE DUKE'S "UNTOUCHABLES" SO HE KNOWS HE CAN GET AWAY WITH HIS UNSAVORY BEHAVIOR.
YOU ARE "UNTOUCHABLE" AS WELL, IF I'M NOT MISTAKEN.
ASIDE FROM WULFHELM AND THAT BAGGI... NONE ARE "UNTOUCHABLE" IN THE EYES OF THE DUKE, DRAGON BUTCHER. RECOGNIZE THAT ALWAYS.
THAT SPEECH DID STANK.
Dearest Emma. Two weeks from your arms and my stomach is twisted. Perhaps it's the brine fish and potato every meal. The crew is obedient and well-mannered..
Mostly. Of all things, I am confident in their ability to resolve our coming endeavors hastily and heartily.
And regarding heart... mine is famished for you. How is our home? I know this letter will most likely be delivered by mine own hand but the writing of it makes me feel closer to you.
I KNOW YOU DID IT! THIEF!
WHO'S AT THE WATCH?
I SAW YOU LEAVING MY QUARTERS. THOUGHT I WAS ASLEEP BUT I WASN'T!
GET TO YER BUNK!
QUIET!
YOUR ROARING SNORING SAYS YOU WAS!
AND YOU STOLE MY LEDGER!

YOUR SOLDIERS, GENERAL...
WHAT'S YOUR QUARREL, BAGGI?
NO QUARREL! FACTS. THIS HERETIC STOLE MY LEDGER AND RAIDED MY QUARTERS.
LIES!
AND AS DEPUTY OF THE DUKE, I ORDER YOU TO SEARCH HER BELONGINGS. I'LL STRIP SEARCH HER IF NEEDED!
NOW HOLD ON, BAGGI.
COME NEAR ME AND SEE HOW MANY FINGERS YOU KEEP!
YOU THREATEN A DEPUTY OF THE DUKE, GIRL? YOUR REASONS FOR THIEVERY WILL BRING CHARGES OF ESPIONAGE!
OH STUFF A RAVEN'S TAIL IN YOUR BLOWHOLE, BAGGI-
MIND THE PORT! MIND THE PORT! OARFISH PORTSIDE!

YOUR BATTALION, GENERALISSIMO.
ARE ALL THE WHALING BLADES RIGGED?
AYE, SIR!
THEN MAN THE HARPOONS AND GUT THAT THING LIKE A DAMNED FAT CALF!
MAN THE HARPOONS!
THERE SHE IS! SHE'S PUMMELING THE HULL, SIR!
CRASH
HURRY, DAMN YOU!
AIM FOR THE EYE!
WHICH ONE, SIR?
ALL OF THEM!
CRRRACK

MWAAAARRRH!
WHERE ARE THE DAMN HARPOONS?
SPLASH
SLOSH
READY, SIR!
HEAVE!
HEAVE!
IT'S DEAD!
HOOOOORAY!
YAYYYYY!
HAAAAA!
DON'T THROW A PARTY YET, LADS...
WE DON'T ANCHOR SOON AND TEND TO THIS BELLY... WE MIGHT AS WELL HOP IN AFTER THAT SINKING BEAUTY.
HOW MUCH DELAY?
HARD TO SAY. NEED SHALLOWS. SOME AHEAD. TWO WEEKS, I'D SAY.
...TWO WEEKS.
But it wasn't two weeks. It was three. And the cold air was unforgiving on the men with little fire to spare and rations dwindling.
The Laptev Sea seems only populated by salty little fish with more bones and scales than meat. Morale is low and we're down four crew from the attack.
The Devil's Island... or whatever it shall be named... is close at hand. Our mission, I assure you, is near it's end.
I pray.

CAPTAIN MORCART! SIR CHARLES!
DEVIL'S ISLAND AHEAD.
ARE YOU CERTAIN?
AS CERTAIN AS **DEATH** ITSELF.
THAT'S THE **WICKED** PLACE. AND WE MUST MAKE EVERY MOVE WITH STEALTH FROM HERE. THE **DEMONS** HAVE EYES IN EVERY CORNER.
WE'LL **TAKE** TWO DINGHIES, SIX SOLDIERS EACH, TO THE BEACH. ONCE WE'VE SURVEYED THE LAND AND **CONTAINED** ANY THREATS, WE'LL BEGIN A RUN BACK FOR MORE WEAPONS IF NEEDED.
"IF NEEDED"... HEH! THEY'LL BE NEEDED. I'LL REMAIN ON **WATCH** HERE WITH CAPTAIN MORCART AND WE'LL AWAIT YOUR SIGNAL.
I'LL GIVE THE **ORDERS** FROM HERE, THANK YOU. AND YES... YOU WILL STAY ABOARD.

I'D WAGER THAT BAGGI ISN'T THE MOST TRUSTWORTHY VIPER IN THE PIT.
IRONIC OBSERVATION COMING FROM YOU, WULF.
A WULF IS NOTHING IF NOT TRUSTWORTHY. LOYAL TO A FAULT.
BUT TO WHOM?
QUIET. FOLLOW ME. EYES WIDE OPEN.
AHHHHH!
ARE YOU INJURED BADLY?
WORRY NOT FOR ME, SIR.
WORRY THERE...

Knights vs Samurai #2, Cover 'A' by Gianenrico Bonacorsi

SIR CHARLES WARD AND HIS ROYAL LEGION HAVE LANDED ON A BEACH IN THE EASTERN SEAS AFTER AN ARDUOUS JOURNEY.
INSTEAD OF THE MARAUDING SAVAGES HE WAS SENT TO DESTROY, HE IS CONFRONTED BY WARRIORS, THE LIKES OF WHOM HE HAS NEVER SEEN...
ORDERS, SIR?

前来た奴らと同じ旗じゃ。。。
(THESE RAIDERS CARRY THE SAME BANNER AS THE THIEVES WE-)
待て。
(HOLD.)

SIR?
WE...
WHAT THE HELL ARE WE DOING?!
THOSE CAN'T BE THE BANDITS-
まだだ。
(PATIENCE...)
まだだと言ってるだろう。
(I SAID HOLD!)
THWUMP
AHHHHH!

IINSHA' JIDAR MIN AL'AMANI!
I THOUGHT PRIESTS WERE FORBIDDEN FROM THIS KIND OF ALCHEMY.
DO YOU WANT TO LIVE OR DIE, WARDEN?
WHAT'S HE DOING?
MASTER, SHIELDING THIS MANY MEN WILL CRIPPLE YOU!
SIR CHARLES, WHAT IS YOUR ORDER?
FLETCHER, HOW LONG WILL GODWIN'S PROTECTION SHELTER US?
I DON'T KNOW! MAINTAINING IT WILL KILL HIM!
WHAT'S THE DAMNED PLAN, BUTCHER?
TO THE ROCKS!

敵にもこんな幻が使える陰陽師がいるのか？
(THEIR PRIEST HAS CAST THIS ILLUSION?)
どうやら敵もなかなかの者がいるようですね。ですが,お頭。
(IT IS NO ILLUSION, OKASHIRA. THIS ONMYŌJI HAS GREAT STRENGTH. BUT...)
ですが？
(BUT?)
そんな彼の力は早くも弱まり始めています。
見てください、
今にも壁にヒビが入りそうです。
(HIS STRENGTH IS FADING. THAT WALL WILL CRACK SHORTLY.)
では壊せ。
(BREAK THE WALL.)
ARCHERS, FIND YOUR POSITIONS! SOLDIERS, GIVE NO GRACE TO THOSE WHO ASSAIL YOU!

剣士、槍士、
今向かって来てる者達は無力化しろ、
後ろの者共は拘束だ。
(SPEARS, SWORDS, BRING THEM INTO SUBMISSION. I WANT THE REST CAPTURED.)
虎
虎
白術を使う。
これでもう嘘は付けまい。
(I WILL CRAFT A REVELATION SPELL THEY WILL NOT BE ABLE TO DEFY DURING INTERROGATION.)
この賊、
何を求めて来ているんだ、
何者かに送られて来たのか？
(WHAT DO THESE INTRUDERS SEEK? WHO HAS SENT THEM?)
THEY COME FAST.
READY...
THEY CERTAINLY DO.

HOW IS GODWIN?
NOT BREATHING SO MUCH.
WE MUST KEEP HIM ALIVE! WE WON'T SURVIVE THIS JOURNEY WITHOUT HIM.
YOU KEEP YOURSELF ALIVE, FLETCHER. I'LL PROTECT THE PRIEST.
HE'S MORE THAN JUST A PRIEST.
SO I'VE SEEN.

CLANG
CLANG
CLANG
CLANG
WHACK
CLANG
CLANG
CLANG
CLANG
THWP
WHACK
CLANG
WHACK
RIP
SLICE
WHACK
CLANG

KRAK
SPLUK
SLASH

兄貴、俺が全部やって頭の首も持ってきます。早く行かせてください。
(I WILL OVERPOWER THEIR COMMANDER, MY BROTHER, AND BRING YOU HIS HEAD.)
お前は他の武士と同じで待機だ！それと、ここではそう呼ぶんじゃない。
(YOU WILL REMAIN HERE. AND ADDRESS ME AS MY OTHER KUMIGASHIRA DO.)
敵軍に火霧でもかけましょうか？
(SHALL I RAIN FIRE FOG UPON THEM, MY LORD?)
死なれてしまっても困る、湯原を呼べ。
(I WANT THEM ALIVE. SUMMON YUHARA KATSUKAGE.)

巨人を拘束しに行け、
必要なら殺れ.
陰陽師を連れて来い。
(CONQUER THE GIANT. SLAY IT IF NECESSARY. BUT KEEP THE PRIEST ALIVE.)
THUNK
馬を持ってこい、
敵の頭を取れば静かになるだろう。
(BRING ME MY HORSE. I WILL TAKE THEIR COMMANDER AND THEY WILL YIELD.)
お頭。。。
(OKASHIRA-)
TO THE BUTCHER THEY GO...

THOSE SOLDIERS DON'T RESEMBLE THE SAVAGES YOU DESCRIBED.
GODLESS INFIDELS. LOOK HOW THEY BEHEAD THEIR ENEMIES. PAGANS.

AWFULLY SKILLED SWORDSMEN AND MARKSMEN FOR PAGANS.
OBVIOUSLY WARD WASN'T THE MAN FOR THE JOB IF HE CAN'T FEND THEM OFF.

THOSE ARE YOUR COMRADES WHO RAISE THEIR STEEL UNDER OUR DUKE'S BANNER.

YOU WISH TO STAND HERE WEEPING OVER DEAD KNIGHTS OR WOULD YOU LIKE TO RESOLVE OUR NEXT MOVE?
I'D LIKE TO RESOLVE WHATEVER BOONDOGGLE YOU'RE RUNNING.

HOW DARE YOU QUESTION MY INTENTION.
HAHAHA! YOU CAN'T EVEN SAY THAT WITH A STRAIGHT FACE. YOU'RE TALKING TO A PIRATE, BAGGI.

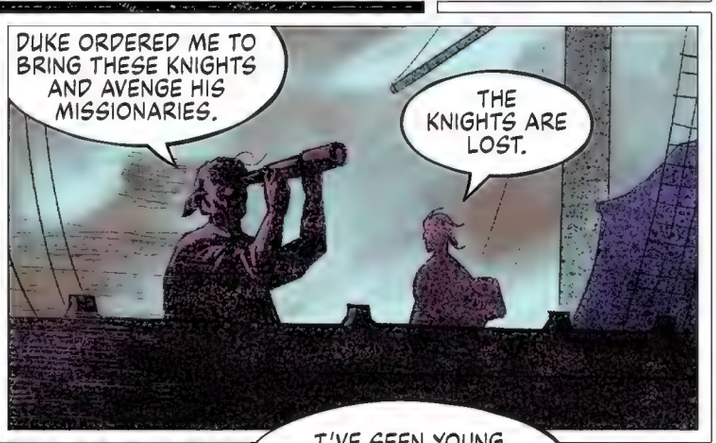
LORD BAGGI... CAPTAIN.
I KNOW THAT YOU'RE NOT TELLING ALL THAT YOU HAVE TO SAY.
I ASSURE YOU THAT IF WE COMPLETE THE MISSION...

...THE ACTUAL MISSION... YOUR POCKETS WILL REMAIN OVERFLOWING WITH THE DUKE'S GOLD FOR AS LONG AS YOU CAN HOLD BREATH.
I CAN HOLD MY BREATH FOR A LONG TIME, SNAKE.

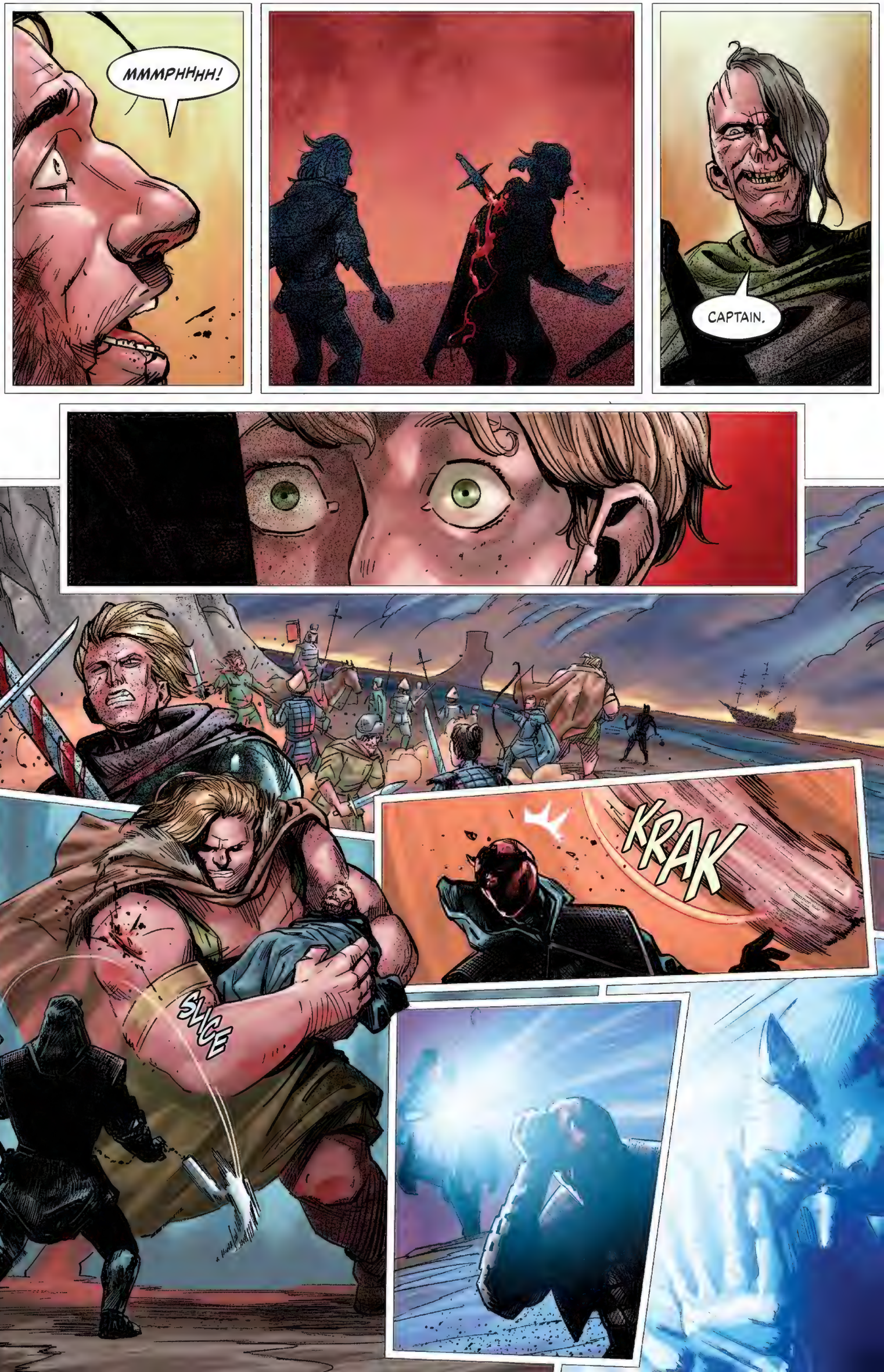
THEN VERY WEALTHY YOU WILL BE.
WHAT'S THIS MISSION?

YOU WILL KNOW DETAILS AS NEEDED. BUT FOR NOW, WE MUST USE THE DISTRACTION OF THIS SLAUGHTER TO GET INTO THE OTHER BAY ON A DINGHY. I KNOW SEVERAL LANDED POINTS THAT COULD GO UNDETECTED.
AHHH, YOU'RE MORE SLIPPERY THAN A SNAKE. YOU'RE AN EEL.

I SERVE THE DUKE. AND I ADVISE YOU TO DO THE SAME.


DUKE ORDERED ME TO BRING THESE KNIGHTS AND AVENGE HIS MISSIONARIES.
THE KNIGHTS ARE LOST.

I'VE SEEN YOUNG CHARLES WARD AGAINST WORSE ODDS THAN THESE.
I'LL PUT MY MONEY ON HIS VICTORY TODAY AND GLADLY LET HIM KNOW ABOUT YOUR SLIPPERY LITTLE PLANS. MY LORD.


MMMPHHHH!
CAPTAIN.
KRAK
SLICE

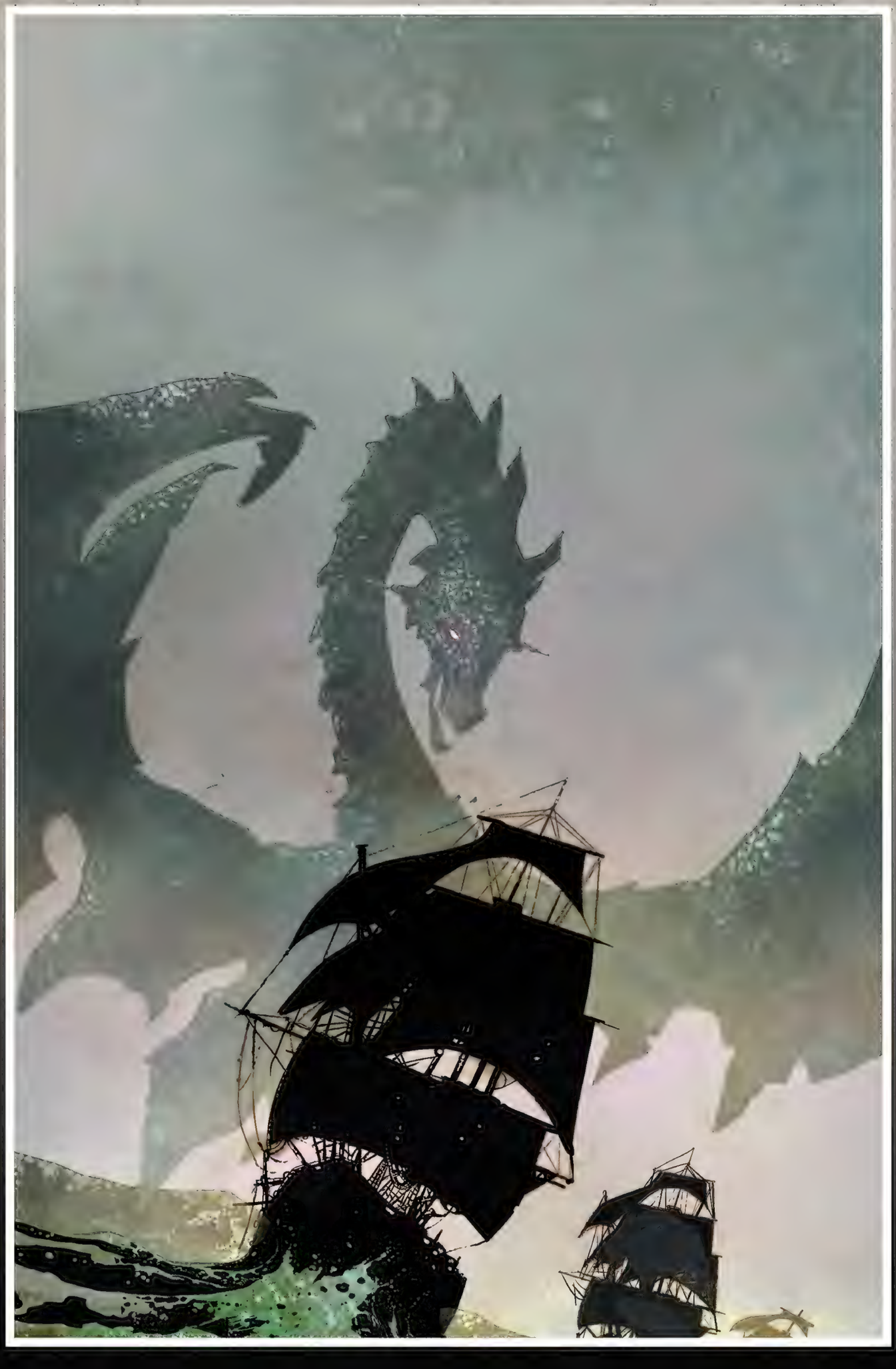
剣を置け。
(LAY DOWN YOUR SWORD.)
YOU COMMAND THESE MEN?
NOBLE OF YOU TO STEP INTO THE ARENA.
今降参すれば、
下の者を救ってやろう。
(SURRENDER NOW AND YOUR MEN WILL BE SPARED.)
I DON'T UNDERSTAND A WORD YOU SPEAK.
SURRENDER AND I WILL SHOW MERCY.

I AM CHARLES WARD, THE DRAGON BUTCHER. SERVANT OF DUKE LEOFRIC, DEFENDER OF THE CROWN. SERVANT OF OUR QUEEN, ELIZABETH THE FIRST.
お前も、
お前に仕えるものも良い度胸がある。
いい家来になりそうだ。
(YOUR MEN FIGHT WITH COURAGE. AS DO YOU. YOU WILL MAKE GOOD SERVANTS TO OUR CAUSE.)
KRAK
KLANG

CLANG
CLANG
WHACK
CLANG
WHACK
CLANG
WHACK
THUNK

SLASH
SWISH

奴らは奇妙な言葉を話す。その言語は謎に包まれている。
(THEY SPEAK IN A STRANGE TONGUE. THEIR WORDS ARE A MYSTERY.)
昔に死んだ兵士の魂が蘇ったのかしら青目の鬼かな？
(THEY COULD BE THE SPIRITS OF SOLDIERS LONG DEAD? BLUE-EYED ONI, PERHAPS.)
いや違う、こいつらは人間の類だ、光のない国からやってきたのか。我らの光を盗みに来たか。
(NO. THEY ARE SOME KIND OF HUMAN. THEY COME FROM A LAND WITH NO LIGHT. PERHAPS THEY SEEK TO STEAL OURS.)
彼らの目的は何であれもう終わりだ。奴らの重い武器と妙な術を活かし我らの家来となるか、死ぬかだ。
(WHATEVER THEIR MISSION, IT IS DONE. THEY WILL NOW SERVE US WITH THEIR HEAVY WEAPONS AND STRANGE MAGIC. OR THEY WILL DIE.)
DEAR GOD IN HEAVEN, DELIVER MY MEN FROM THESE BARBARIANS.
I BRING GOOD NEWS FOR YOUR LEADERS.
TAKE ME TO THEM NOW.



Knights vs Samurai #3, Cover 'A' by Mirko Colak

WHAT'S THIS?

WHY, THANK YOU MY LITTLE FRIEND. ET IN CAELO REDDETUR TIBI.
UNNGHHH...
HERE, EAT THIS. YOU NEED REST.
ALREADY MAKING FRIENDS, I SEE.
AND A LITTLE HENBANE COULD MAKE ME FEEL ALIVE AGAIN.
I WISH IT WAS A FRIEND WHO COULD GET ME WHAT I NEED. IF I HAD SOME CLOVE LEAF AND[] CHAMOMILE, I COULD HEAL MUNDRIC'S WOUND AND WULFHELM'S HAND.
NEED TO HELP MASTER CHARLES...
HA! MASTER CHARLES OUGHT NOT HAVE LED US INTO A FOUR FLANKED TRAP.
I DIDN'T HEAR YOUR PROTESTS WHEN WE LANDED.
NOT MY JOB.

WHAT EXACTLY IS YOUR JOB.
DON'T QUESTION ME, WOMAN. I'M THE MOST USEFUL MEMBER OF THIS REGIMENT.
USEFUL? WHAT THE DUKE SEES IN YOU, GERMAN, I'LL NEVER UNDERSTAND.
TRULY. YOU WON'T. YOU COULDN'T--
ENOUGH OF THIS.
WE OUGHTN'T BE IN THESE CAGES.
HE PLAYED RIGHT INTO THEIR PLAN.
...LED US RIGHT INTO A TRAP!
HURTS. HURTS.
BENNETT! NO!
お頭に合わせてやる。ついてこい。
〈Leader of these men, come with us. Our Taisho will see you.〉

なぜここに来た？
何を求めてここに来た？
〈Why have you come here? What is it that you seek?〉
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE SAYING.
何者に仕えるものだ？悪魔の遣いか？
〈Whom do you serve? Are you devils? Are you sent by devils?〉
I CAN'T UNDERSTAND A DAMN WORD YOU'RE SAYING.
もしよろしければ。。。
〈May I, my lord?〉
よろしい。
〈Yes.〉

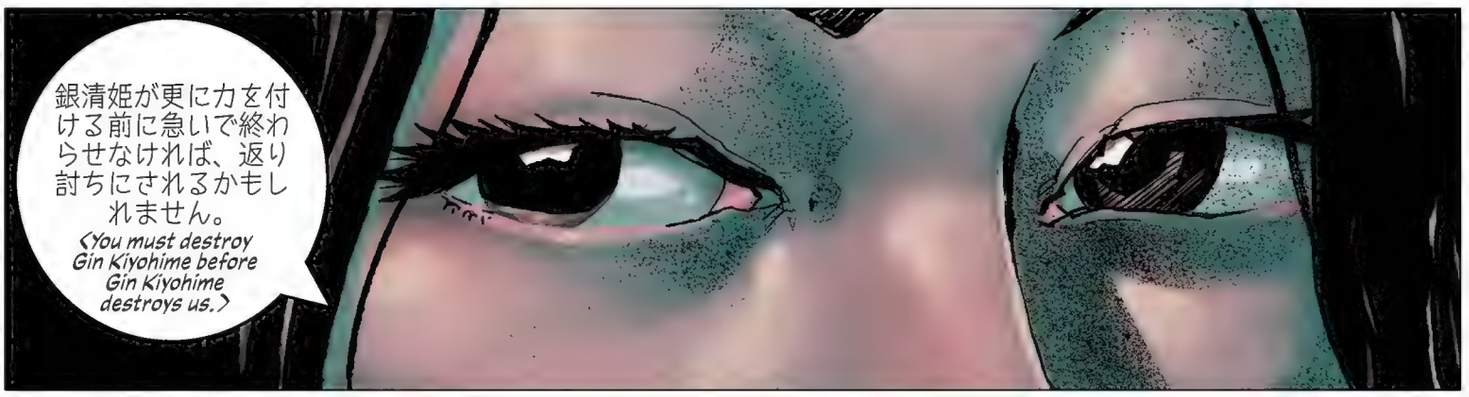
YOU SAVAGE FILTH. PUTTING A MAN'S HEAD ON A SPIKE!
WHEN I'VE BROKEN OUT OF HERE, REST ASSURED I'LL BE PUTTING MORE THAN YOUR HEAD ON THE END OF MY SWORD.
もういい。
〈Enough.〉
強い意思を持っているようですね。
〈His mind is strong, my lord.〉
それとも強い心を持っているのか
〈Or his heart.〉
両方かもしれぬな。
〈Or both.〉
これが何だか知っているか？
〈You know what this is?〉
YOU HAVE DRAGONS HERE?

DID YOU ACTUALLY DEFEAT ONE OR DID YOU SIMPLY HAVE YOUR ARTISTS PAINT THAT INTO THE STORY?
何をゴチャゴチャ言っているのだ？
〈What are you saying?〉
YOU'VE FACED A BEAST IN BATTLE?
竜の事か？
〈Dragon.〉
DRAGON.
PHHTTTT!
強い心を持っているかもしれないが、野蛮な輩だ、連れていけ。必要なことは部下に聞くとしよう。
〈He may be strong-willed but he is ignorant. Take him away. We will question his lieutenants next.〉
その計画を暴く。
〈I will uncover his plans.〉
このような輩を野放しにしておくのは賢明じゃないぞ。
〈Serpents in the camp should not be left to nest.〉
確かに強いことは間違いありません。
〈They are good fighters, my lord.〉
これから私に仕えるのであれば、優秀な部下になるかもしれぬ。
〈If they will yield to serve me, perhaps they could be useful.〉
とは言え、どう使う気ですか？
〈Useful how, lord?〉

本部が北国に着く前に銀清姫の首を討ちとらなくては。
〈I must defeat Gin Kiyohime and deliver his head to Nariagari Mitsusode before his forces reach the north.〉
この北国の山姥の間でしか使われない奇妙な術があるようです。その秘密を伺う為に小部隊を割いていただいてもよろしいでしょうか？
〈There are spells known only to the witches of these northern woods, my lord. I wonder if I may take a platoon to convince those witches to share their secrets.〉
そんな簡単に話を呑む山姥の話は聞いたことが無いが？
〈You speak as if witches are easy to convince, wizard.〉
私のやり方であれば可能です。
〈I have my ways.〉
あの白い陰陽師はどうする。見たところ奴もただ物ではなさそうだぞ。
〈What of this white wizard? The power he conjured on the beach was impressive.〉
彼の力が本物か幻術なのかも試させていただきます。
〈I will test him and discover what is magic... and what is illusion.〉
他の者は？
〈And the others?〉
明日までには私に仕える者とそうでない者を見極めよう。仕える気が無いようなら死ぬだけだ。
〈We will determine by tomorrow who among them shall serve our cause. Those who refuse... will die.〉

何故昨日の会議に来なかったのだ。
〈Why were you not in my counsel of lieutenants?〉
負傷者の治癒をしておりました。
〈I was tending our wounded.〉
森の奥にも負傷者がいたのか?
〈Were you tending to the woods, as well?〉

お頭の使命を果たす旅なのにもかかわらず、私欲に囚われてしまい誠に申し訳ございません。
〈My lord, I am here to serve you and your mission. Please forgive me for my transgressions.〉
すまぬ、お前に安全でいて欲しいだけだ。
〈Forgive me. I only seek to keep you safe.〉
はい。承知しております。
〈I know, my husband.〉
今は成上が北国に到着する前に銀清姫を打ち取らなくてはならない。
〈I must destroy Gin Kiyohime before Nariagari Mitsusode destroys his enemies and arrives to settle this land.〉


銀清姫が更に力を付ける前に急いで終わらせなければ、返り討ちにされるかもしれません。
〈You must destroy Gin Kiyohime before Gin Kiyohime destroys us.〉

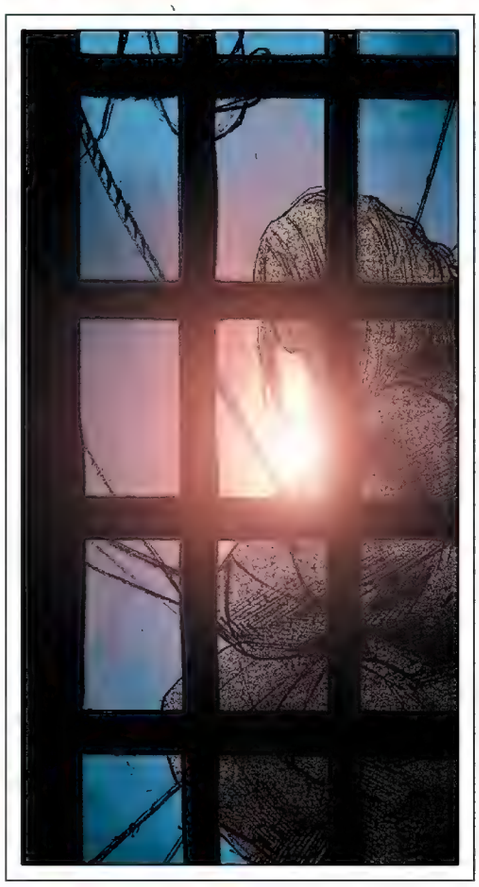
NEGOTIATING OUR RELEASE WITH THE SAVAGES, MY LORD?
QUIET, WULFHELM.
YOU THINK THEY WON'T DECORATE THE WHOLE PLACE WITH OUR HEADS?
DEAR LORD...
WHAT IS YOUR PLAN, LORD CHARLES?
PLAN?! YOU THINK THE BOY HAS A PLAN? DID YOU SEE HOW WELL HIS PLAN WENT ON THE BEACH?
YOU WILL MIND YOUR PLACE, WULFHELM!
YOU WILL KEEP YOUR JAWS SHUT UNTIL YOU'VE BEEN GIVEN INSTRUCTION. I'VE SEEN YOUR WEAKNESS AND WILL GELD IF YOU CAN'T BE A GOOD DOG.

WHAT DO YOU HAVE NOW, MY LITTLE FRIEND? OH MY GOODNESS! LOOK AT THIS!
WHAT IS IT?
I HAVE NO IDEA. I'VE NEVER SEEN THEM. SMELLS LIKE CLOVE, AND CHAMOMILE.
TCH TCHI TCHI...
WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE IN EXCHANGE FOR THESE, EH?
TCHITCHITCHITCHI!
OOOOOOH, YOU LIKE THOSE? I'LL GIVE YOU ONE. MAYBE I'LL CALL YOU BUTTONS.
RUB THIS ON YOUR WOUNDS. SOMEONE HELP MUNDRIC GET IT ON THEIR FOOT.
ON THE FOOT. THANK YOU.

時間が無い。急げ！
シャンカを収穫するためにはみんなが必要なんだ！
いっぱい取るんだ！冬までに国に帰れればキャサリン・パールよりもお金持ちになれるぞ！
〈We don't have any time to waste. I'll need all of these men to help excavate the Shankh. As many barrels as possible. We get a shipment back to England by winter and you will be more wealthy than Catherine Parr.〉
誰のことだ？
〈Who?〉
なんでもない。
〈Nevermind.〉
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING TO HIM? WHAT'S HAPPENING?

YOU ARE NOT TO SPEAK. YOU ARE NOT TO DO ANYTHING OTHER THAN WHAT I INSTRUCT YOU. IS THAT UNDERSTOOD, PUMPKIN?
WHERE IS--
DO NOT SPEAK! FOLLOW MY LEAD. LEND A HAND. AND YOU MAY JUST FIND YOURSELF RICHER THAN ANY KNIGHT EVER DREAMED. IF YOU'RE LUCKY.
もうすぐ着くぞ。
〈We're nearly upon it now.〉
そうだな。
ここからでも糞の匂いがする。
〈Yes, I can smell the shit from here.〉
一時的に洞窟から誘き出すための案が。。。
〈We have a plan to lure him out and while he's preoccupied...〉
いっぱい取れるぞ！他の奴らが正義のために遊んでいる最中できるだけいっぱい集めるんだ!
〈...we can excavate as many barrels as possible. Let those fools play hero while we get collect the spoils.〉
SIGHHHHH...

ご主人。。。
私は。。。
〈My husband...
I am--〉
来い、
準備をせねばならぬ。
夜はもうすぐ明ける。
〈Come. We must prepare.
The night is nearly
over.〉



煙の匂いを嗅がせるために拠点の布を矢に括り付け、火を付けて打つのだ。そうすれば、これから攻撃が来ると勘違いするに違いない。
〈We've scented up the arrows nicely with the materials from camp. Gin Kiyohime will have no doubt about the source of this attack.〉
凄く良いぞ！
〈Brilliant.〉
奴が出てくるぞ！
〈She is emerging.〉
HOLY HELL.
IT'S-- IT'S--
YES, PUMPKIN. IT IS.

MUNDRIC, IS IT HELPING?
MUCH HEALED. MUCH THANKS.
AND WULFHELM?
HE'S HEALED UP FRESH AS A BABY THOUGH DON'T EXPECT ANY THANKS.
I DIDN'T-- OH!
肌が風で白くなるほどの長旅だったようですね。そなたの術は人の物か、自然の物か、それとも悪魔の物か。
〈You have come a great distance. Your skin bleached by the winds of your journey. Your magic... is it of men? Or earth? Or of demon?〉
I KNOW NOT WHAT YOU SAY, PRIEST, BUT I HEAR THE ECHOES OF OUR ANCIENT FATHER'S IN YOUR BREATH.
何故か其方の声は懐かしく思える。太古のささやきが聞こえてくるようだ。
〈There is something familiar in your voice. Some ancient incantation echoes when you speak.〉
スクリ～～～～！
〈SCREEEEEEEEEEEEE!〉

IS THAT WHAT I THINK IT IS?
DEAR GOD IN HEAVEN. LOOK AT THE SIZE OF THAT THING.
WE'RE SET TO BE ROASTED IN THESE CAGES!
GUARD! LET US LOOSE! WE'LL BE KILLED IN HERE.
BENNETT, I NEED YOU NOW BROTHER. GIVE ME GUIDANCE.
スクリ～～～～！
<SCREEEEEEEEEEEEE!>

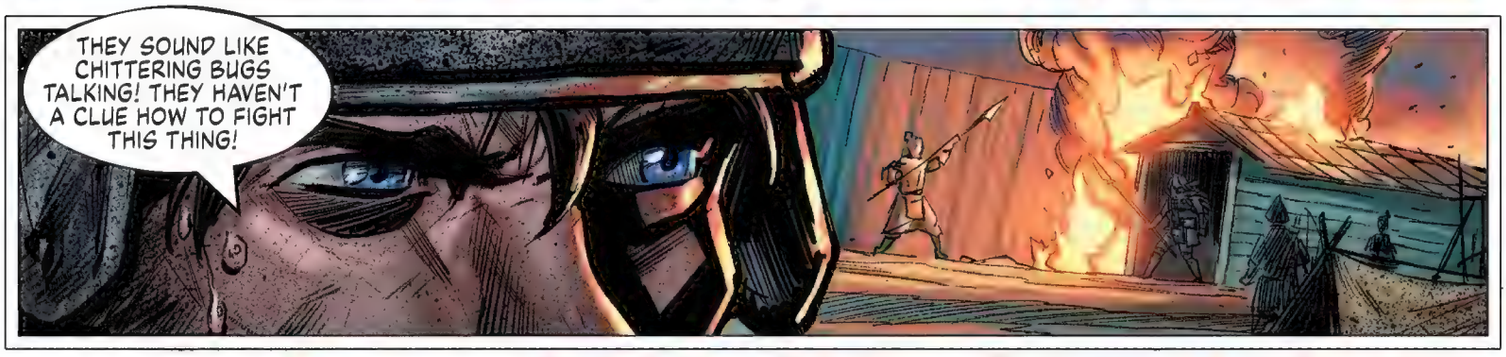
GODWIN! YOU STILL HAVE THAT DEMON DUST THAT SET THE BATTLE BEARS INTO FRENZY?
THAT'S DANGEROUS MAGIC, MY LORD!
WOULD IT WORK ON MUNDRIC?
IT'S POSSIBLE, LORD CHARLES, BUT I FEAR--
NO TIME TO FEAR, CLERIC!
PFFFHHHHHH...
SHSSSWEHH
:SNIFF:... HUH?
ROOOOAAAR!
SNAP
SNAP
SNAP
RIIIIIP
RIIIIIP

ROOOAAAAAH!
GOOD WORK, MUNDRIC!
AHHHHH!
THAT DRAGON IS UNLIKE ANYTHING I'VE EVER SEEN, LORD.
IT'S UNLIKE ANYTHING IN THE RECORD...
ARE WE GOING TO STAND HERE ADMIRING THE LIZARD OR CAN WE ACTUALLY DO SOMETHING?!
WE NEED OUR WEAPONS, SIR CHARLES! I BELIEVE THEY STOWED THEM IN THAT BUILDING OVER THERE!
WE RETRIEVE THE WEAPONS. WE DEFEND OURSELVES. IF THESE GODLESS BUTCHERS TURN THEIR BLADES ON US, WE STRIKE THEM DOWN.
射手！構え！
<Archers, aim! Prepare to fire!>
止まれ！囚人どモ！
<Halt, prisoners!>
STOP! WAIT! WE CAN HELP YOU!
銀清姫討伐の邪魔になるだけだ。迷わず殺せ。
<Kill them swiftly so they do not interfere with our destruction of Gin Kiyohime!>
LISTEN TO ME--
待て！
<HALT!>
I CAN HELP YOU. WE CAN HELP YOU. THESE SOLDIERS KNOW HOW TO BATTLE A DRAGON, DRAGON! GET US OUR WEAPONS. I HAVE KILLED THESE BEASTS. LOOK!

Knights vs Samurai #4, Cover 'A' by Gianenrico Bonacorsi

SKREEEEEEE
射手、矢を放て！
抛石用意！
〈Archers! Fire! Soldiers! Man the Hōseki*!〉
SSSSSSSSSSSS
ROYAL LEGION! BATTLE READY. LET US SHOW THEM HOW TO DEAL WITH SERPENTS!
*A SMALLER FORM OF CATAPULT THAT'S USED TO HAUL LARGE BOULDERS.

盾を高く持て！
射手を護衛しろ！
〈Keep the shields held high. Protect the archers!〉
獣の皮膚が固すぎます！
まるで鎧のようです！
〈Nothing can penetrate the beast's skin. It's like armor!〉
山之上！
以前の獣には矢と抛石でやれたぞ！
なぜこいつには効かない？
〈Yamanoue! The last time I faced a dragon the stones and arrows were effective. Why isn't this working?〉
武器を強化することはできますが、
まずは奴の血が必要です。
〈We need to spill some of the dragon's blood for me to create a spell. I can fortify the weapons.〉
獣の皮膚を貫くのだ！
〈Pierce the serpent's skin!〉
貫こうとはしております！
〈We are trying, my lord!〉
キャーー！　助けて！
〈Aiiiiieeeee! Help me!〉
眼を貫くことができれば、
それか.
〈Perhaps we could use the eye of the dragon... or...?〉


THEY SOUND LIKE CHITTERING BUGS TALKING! THEY HAVEN'T A CLUE HOW TO FIGHT THIS THING!

KRRACK
いや！
〈No!〉
アアア！
〈Ahh!〉

怯むな射手！歩兵は奴の心臓を狙え！
〈Don't relent, archers! Soldiers, drive your spears into the heart of the evil creature!〉
前進！
〈Move! Onward!〉
GIVE MUNDRIC STONES. THROW!
HURRY! BEFORE THIS BEAST SPITS MORE FLAMES!
IT SEEMS THE DRAGON'S FIRE DISCHARGE HAS A LIMITED SUPPLY.
YES! PLEASE, GIVE THIS GIANT THE STONES. HE IS A BEING OF GREAT STRENGTH!
抛石に近づくな！
〈Stay away from the stones!〉
LISTEN, TO US! THE GIANT CAN HELP HURL THE--OH DAMN! WE NEED AN ELUCIDATION SPELL, FLETCHER!
何をしている！下がれ！
〈What are you doing? Get back!〉
CRUNCH
SPLATTTTTTTTTTTT

KRAAAWWWWW
SWOOOSH
BENNETT...? BENNETT!
BENNE- UUUF!
巨人に石をやれ！ 手を貸したがっている！
〈Give the tall one a stone. It wants to help!〉
石をやれ！
〈Give it a boulder!〉
FINALLY! AT LEAST SOME OF THEM HAVE A BIT OF SENSE!
THEY DON'T UNDERSTAND A WORD WE SAY.
WHAT ABOUT FAERIE MUSTARD SEEDS? WOULD THAT HELP US DEVISE AN ELUCIDATION SPELL?
DO YOU SEE ANY FAERIE'S RUNNING ABOUT?!
SMAAAAACK

SKREEEEEE
...BENNETT?
IT CAN'T BE. UNLESS... AM I GOING MAD?
PERFECT TOSS, MUNDRIC!
LOOK AT HIM! LAYING THERE WITH STARS IN HIS EYES. THE DUKE'S FAMED "DRAGON BUTCHER"! HA!

I AM HOPEFUL THAT CHARLES AND HIS LEGION WILL APPEAR UPON OUR HARBOR SOON.
AYE. AS DO I, MY LORD.
THEIRS IS A HOLY MISSION AND I'M CERTAIN THEY ARE GUIDED BY A MORE POWERFUL HAND THAN WE MAY FATHOM.
MY LORD... LOOK. A MIGHTY BUCK IN THE BRUSH.
MY EYES BETRAY ME. TAKE YOUR SHOT, JARROW.
I BELIEVE MY BOLT HAS FOUND ITS MARK.
OF COURSE IT HAS, SIR ROBERT. NO ONE IN MY REALM HAS YOUR MARKSMANSHIP. YOUR SKILL. YOUR ABILITIES.
I AM DEEPLY OBLIGED, MY LORD.
SERVING YOU IS AN HONOR I TAKE NOT LIGHTLY.
I KNOW, JARROW. I KNOW.
HOORAY!
DUKE LEOFRIC!
TO THE ROYAL LEGION!
WITH DRAGONS BATTERED INTO EXTINCTION, WE'LL BE ABLE TO FORTIFY YOUR LANDS, MY LORD, AND SUPPORT THE QUEEN'S GODLY MISSIONS TO THE NEW WORLDS.
YES. THE QUEEN'S GODLY MISSIONS. WITH THE RESOURCES OUR ROYAL LEGION ACQUIRE ON THEIR CURRENT ERRAND, OUR STRENGTH WILL BE AMPLIFIED IN WAYS NO WIZARD OR PRIEST COULD FATHOM.
RESOURCES, MY LORD?
THERE ARE... MINERALS... IN THIS EASTERN LAND THAT BAGGI DISCOVERED WHEN OUR POOR MISSIONARIES WERE SAVAGED. HE WILL BE STOCKPILING SOME OF THIS... "SHANKH" IS WHAT I BELIEVE THEY CALL IT.
MY CURIOSITY IS PIQUED, SIR.
MINE, AS WELL, ROBERT. MINE AS WELL.

CHARLES WARD IS THE BRAVEST KNIGHT I'VE TRAINED. LIKE A SON TO ME. I KNOW HE'LL AVENGE YOUR FALLEN MISSIONARIES AND ROUT THE SAVAGES.
YES. I AM CERTAIN THAT HE WILL RETURN TO US VICTORIOUS. AND HE WILL HAVE A LOVELY HOMECOMING AWAITING HIM.
MAY THE LORD DELIVER HIS SAFE RETURN.
IT IS ASSURED. WITH BAGGI SUPERVISING THE EXPEDITION, HE WILL BE IN SAFE HANDS.
WHAT OF OUR ROYAL LEGION WHO ARE HELD PRISONER?
WHAT OF THEM?! LET THEM BURN FOR ALL I CARE.
BURN, SIR?
AS LONG AS WE FORTIFY AS MUCH SHANKH AS A SHIP MAY CARRY BACK TO ENGLAND...

〈What's taking so damned long?〉 HURRY IT UP, YOU SCOBBERLOTCHERS!
SCOBBER-HUH?
巨人を手伝え！ もっと石を！
〈Support the giant! More stones!〉
MY LORD, ARE YOU INJURED BADLY?
NO... NO!.. MUST- HELP BEAT BACK THIS DRAGON!

EXCELLENT WORK, MUNDRIC! ARCHERS, FIND THE SERPENT'S EYES!
UNNNGH!
あそこの若者が部隊の長のようです！
彼を打ち取れば兵は皆服従するでしょう。
〈The young one is clearly their leader, my lord. If he is slain, his soldiers will turn to you-〉
竜がこちらの弱点を探っているぞ！
盾を用意しろ！
〈The dragon is looking for a strike point. Fortify our flame barriers!〉
水樽用意！また火を吐くぞ、
腹の中で火を育ててやがる。
〈Organize the water line and buckets. Be prepared for more fire. The creature is letting the flames in its belly grow!〉

もっと水を！
〈More water! Here!〉
AIM FOR THE NECK AND CHEST! ITS WEAKEST ARMOR RESIDES THERE!
何を言っている？！
〈What is he saying?!〉
HA! MIGHT AS WELL BE SPEAKING LATIN, DRAGON BUTCHER.
HAVE YOU NO HEART FOR THE ROYAL LEGION? OUR HOLY MISSION?
HOLY MISSION?! HA! YOU ARE AS THICK AS YOUR--
来るぞ！
〈It's coming!〉
IT'S COMING!

SKREEEEECH
SLAAAAASH
GOD HELP US!
あああ！
‹Ahhhhhhhhhhh!›

AYYYyYEEEEEEE!
CACKLE
POP
SSSSSSSSSSS
WE NEED OUR WEAPONS BACK. WHERE ARE YOU KEEPING THEM?
虎の将に対してどのような口の聞き方だ!
<Do not speak to the Tiger Lord in such a manner!>
何を言っている?
<What is he saying?>
IF YOU GIVE US OUR WEAPONS, WE CAN HELP YOU! YOU SEE THIS! IT'S A CLAW OF A DRAGON I'VE SLAIN, DAMN YOU! I CAN DEFEAT IT!
何を言っているか分かり合える術があれば、
でもそれは山姥のみぞ知る術です。
<I know not what he says, Lord. A language charm would serve us well but only the Yamauba know such spells.>
HEY!

竜討伐の最良策は竜を武器として使うことです。
〈A dragon is the strongest weapon against a dragon.〉
どういう意味だ？
〈What does she mean?〉
GIVE ME THAT BACK! WHAT ARE YOU--
SSSSZING
THAT SNAKE'S NOT GOING TO WAIT MUCH LONGER BEFORE IT COMES DOWN FOR ANOTHER ROUND!
AHHHHH! YES! "THE BLOOD OF A DRAGON, THE FLESH OF A DRAGON..."
"...THE BONE OF A DRAGON! ALL FORTIFY THE MUNITIONS TO DESTROY THE DRAGON."
AELFRIC OF EYNSHAM. THE SECRET BOOK OF RUNE.
剣に関すれば獣の皮は、獣の皮に対する有効な素材だ。
〈The skin of a serpent emboldens the blade that slays the serpents!〉
IT'S COMING BACK, MY LORD!

お頭様
〈My Lord.〉
ただ一つだけ、
〈There is but one.〉
LISTEN TO ME, THIS CLERIC IS THE GREATEST ARCHER IN ALL OF NORTHERN ENGLAND.
SHE CAN SHOOT THROUGH A MOUSE HOLE IN A CELLAR FROM ATOP A BAILEY!
朋殿！
〈Tomo-dono!〉
お頭様
〈Yes, my lord?〉
この矢で奴の心臓を貫け、
失敗は許されん
〈Guide this arrow into the heart of the beast. Make no error.〉
承知いたしました。
〈Yes, my lord.〉
YOU'RE MAKING A MISTAKE! LISTEN TO ME...

PLUNK
SSSSSSSSSSSSSSSS
THUNK
SKREEEEEEEE
HE HIT!
YAYYYY!
THIS IS NO TIME FOR CELEBRATION, MY LORD.
I KNOW. THAT CREATURE WILL BE BACK WITH A VENGEANCE AND THERE ARE NO MORE TALONS WITH WHICH TO GIRD OUR WEAPONS.
HOW MAY I SERVE THEE, SIR CHARLES?
I MUST FIND A WAY TO UNDERSTAND THEIR LEADER. HIS SOBER STARE TELLS ME HE UNDERSTANDS HOW LITTLE TIME WE HAVE TO DEVISE A STRONGER STRATEGY.

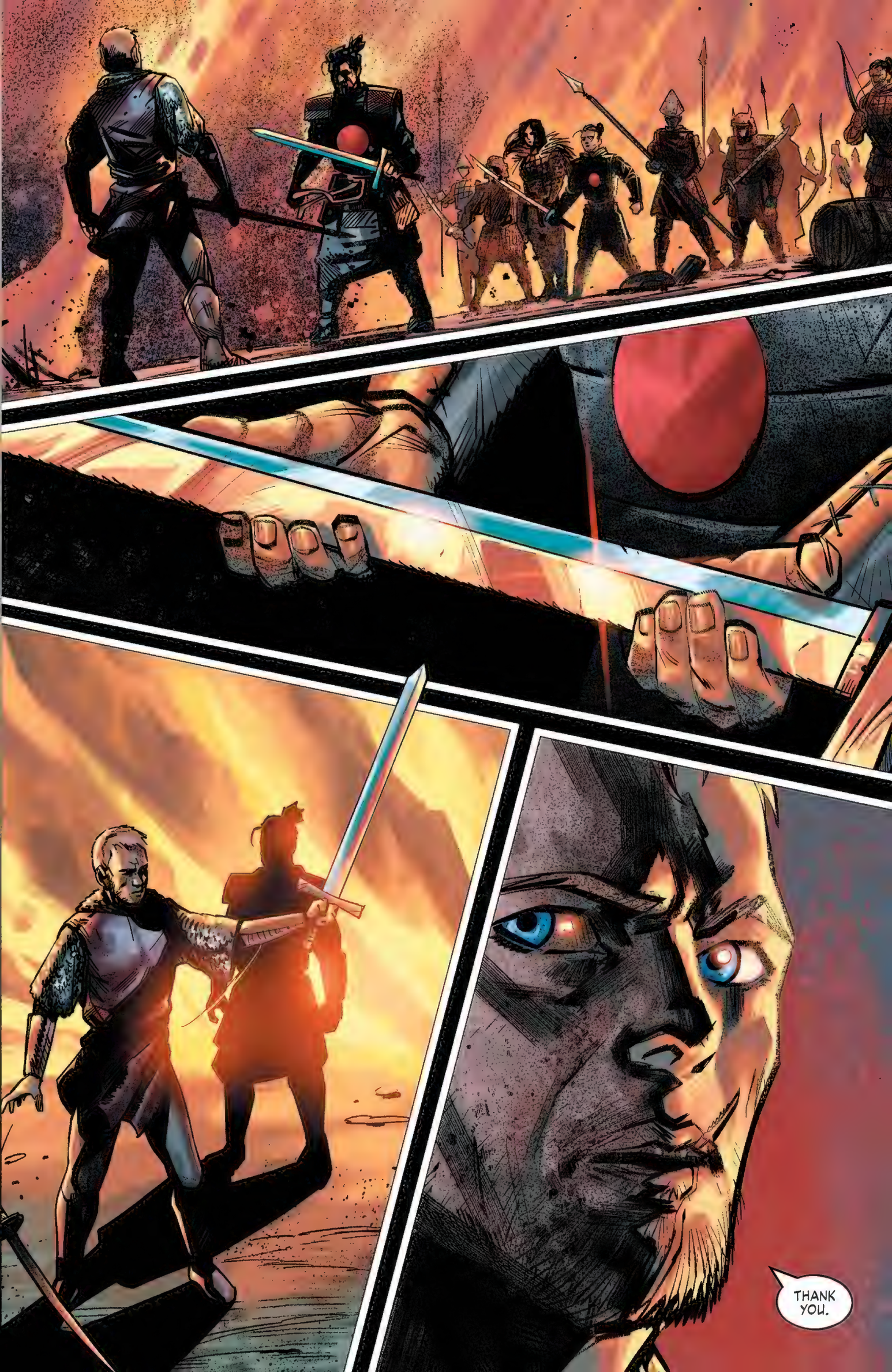
竜の爪もない、
牙もなければ血すら無いぞ。
〈We have no more dragon claws. No blood of dragons or fangs of the serpent.〉
お頭、
仙人によると山姥は危険ですが、
千年もの間竜と戦い、
牙を集めているらしいですぞ。
〈My Lord... they are devious and treacherous but... The Sennin say that the old Yamauba in the hills have collected the dragon teeth of a thousand years' war.〉
そんなことが可能なのか？
〈How is such a thing possible?〉
奴らは魔女でございます。
計り知れないほど強力でしょう。
ここから東に二日間山越えをすれば拠点があるでしょう。
〈They are witches, my Lord. Of great strength. They hide in the hills two days east.〉
次の戦いに備えよ。
数班は私についてこい、武器を揃えに東に向かう。
他の者は拠点に残り怪我人の手当てをしろ。
〈Recover your strength. An order of you will join me east as we seek the weapons needed to destroy Gin Kiyohime. The rest will tend to our camp and our wounded.〉
囚人はどうされますか？
今ここで処すべきでしょうか？
〈And what of the prisoners, my Lord? Shall they be executed?〉

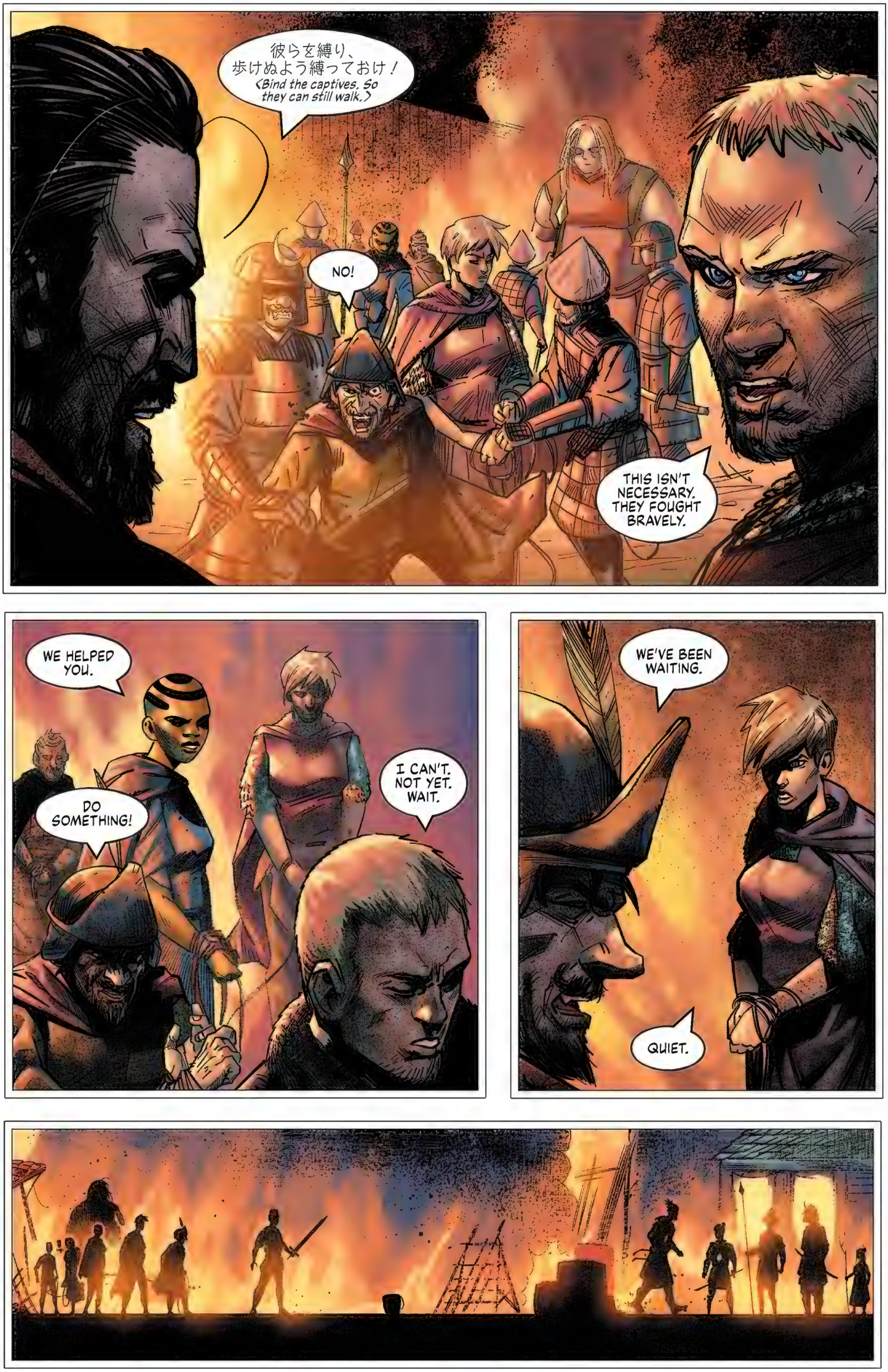
CLIP-CLOP CLIP-CLOP

Move yer asses! We should have a dozen of these casks loaded by now!
WHAT... IS THAT?
SKREEEEEEE
SHIT! THE BEAST IS RETURNING! HURRY, BOY! HELP ME HITCH THE CART!
WHAT OF THE OTHERS?
CLIP-CLOP
CLIP-CLOP
WE HAVE TO HURRY! IF THIS IS ALL WE'RE ABLE TO MINE, THEN SO BE IT! BETTER TO SEND HOME FIVE CASKS OF SHANKH THAN TWO CASKETS OF US!

SKREEEEEEE
HEEEEEELP!
AHHHHHHH!
HELP US!
バギ！バギ！どこに行った！
銀清姫から逃げきれたぞ！
だが他の者は皆やられてしまった！
<Baggi! Baggi! Where are you? I escaped!
Gin Kiyohime killed the rest but I->
WHOOOOOOOSH
DAMN DRAGONS.

Knights vs Samurai #5, Cover 'A' by Mirko Colak


THANK YOU.


彼らを縛り、
歩けぬよう縛っておけ！
<Bind the captives. So they can still walk.>
NO!
THIS ISN'T NECESSARY. THEY FOUGHT BRAVELY.
WE HELPED YOU.
DO SOMETHING!
I CAN'T. NOT YET. WAIT.
WE'VE BEEN WAITING.
QUIET.

お頭、”成上光袖公”が東方で勝利を収めた。
彼の旗本が数日内に我らの進捗を評価しに来るだろう。
〈Our Lord, Nariagari Mitsusode, has been victorious in the east. His Hatamoto will be here in a few days to assess our progress.〉
どこ旗本だって？
〈Which Hatamoto is coming?〉
友殿と彼の備えだ。
〈Tomo-san and his sonae.〉
兄上、
もし友也殿の到着前に竜を倒さねば、
我々は失敗のために皆殺しに。
〈Brother, if we have not destroyed the dragon before Tomoya arrives, he will kill us all for our failure.〉
黙れ！
〈Quiet!〉
もし近くに竜の爪と牙を持っている者がいるとするなら、
森の山姥しかないでしょう。
〈The Yammauba, my lord. If there is anyone who may possess the claws and fangs of dragons, it is those witches of the woods.〉
ならばそうしよう。
我々は山姥が集まる若楠の森へ進軍する。
奴らに竜の爪と歯を分けてもらえれば、
あの化け物に歯が立つかもしれん。
〈So be it. We march to the Wakkanai forest where the Yammauba gather. The witches will provide us with dragon claws and teeth so that we may defeat Gin Kiyohime at last.〉
はい。
〈Yes.〉
副官！弓士五人、剣士五人、
兵士十人を選べ！我々はこれより稚内森に進軍する。
残りの者は陣地の再建と負傷者の看護に従事しろ。
〈Lieutenants! Select five archers, five swordsmen and ten soldiers. We march now into the Wakkanai forest. The rest will rebuild camp and tend to our wounded.〉
捕虜はどうする？
〈What of the prisoners?〉

彼らに先頭を歩かせろ。
旅の途中で奇襲されたなら、
敵はまず先陣から襲うだろう
〈They will lead our march. Any foes we may face on the journey will attack them first.〉
彼らの指揮官はどうなさいますか？
〈And their leader?〉
今のところ縛らずおけ。
〈Leave him unbound. For now.〉
承知しました。
〈Yes, my lord.〉

WHAT'S HAPPENING? I DEMAND YOU FREE MY MEN!
我々と共に進軍せよ。
竜を落とすために必要な武器を手に入れるぞ。
〈You will march with us. We will retrieve the weapons needed to defeat the dragon.〉

I DON'T KNOW WHAT THE HELL YOU'RE SAYING!
動け！
〈Move!〉

LET MY CLERIC REMAIN! HE IS HEALING YOUR WOUNDED!

敵の陰陽師は残せ。
〈Leave the priest.〉
陰陽師を解放せよ！
〈Cut the priest free!〉

DO YOUR BEST TO HEAL THEM. LET THEM SEE WE CAN BE TRUSTED.
I HAVE A PLAN, LORD CHARLES. RETURN HERE SAFELY AND I BELIEVE WE WILL BECOME FREE AGAIN. LEAD THESE MEN, SIR. THEY NEED YOU.
STAY HERE WITH GODWIN. HELP KEEP HIM SAFE.

WE CAN HIDE THE CART HERE AND FETCH IT LATER.
WHAT NOW?
I'M WORKING THAT OUT, BRAT. QUIET! FIRST THINGS FIRST. I'M STARVED WITH HUNGER. I SAW SOME HASKAP BERRIES DOWN THERE.
HASKAP?
HONEYBERRIES. NOW SHUT UP, I HAVE TO -
<Be still!>
<Throw down your blade!>
<Oh thank you for finding us! We've been lost in the woods here. I bring an important message for your Daimyo from ->
SWISH

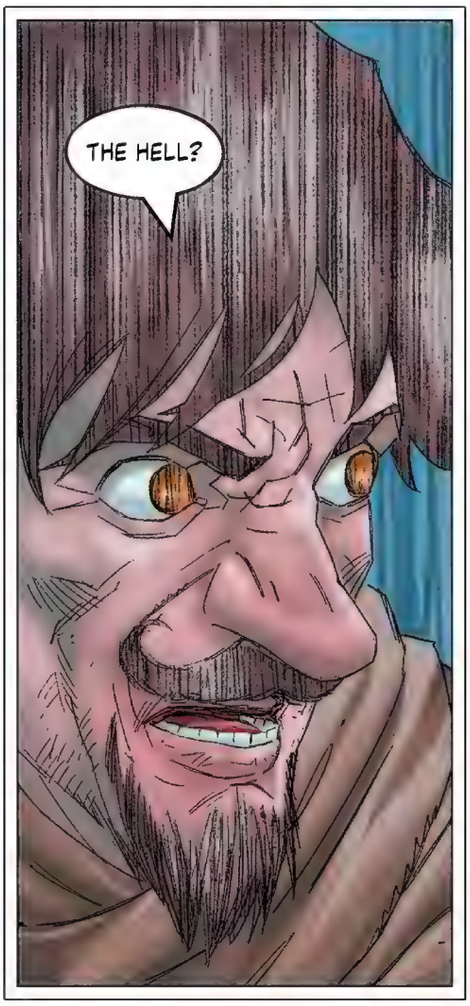
MY LORD, I BELIEVE I CAN DISARM ONE OF THESE MEN AND HELP TO FREE MUNDRIC. THIS COULD GIVE US A FIGHTING -
黙れ！ <Quiet!>
THWACK

DON'T YOU DARE.
もう十分だ！ 前進せよ！ <Enough! Keep moving up there!>

LORD CHARLES... I SENSE SOMETHING. SOMETHING NEAR.
MUNDRIC HUNGRY. TIRED.
I'LL GET YOU FED SOON. ALL OF YOU. THERE IS A PLAN.
WHAT A PLAN! TIED WITH ROPE AND MARCHED UP TO FEED A DRAGON WHILE YOU -

THWACK

I'LL RIP YOUR BLOODY ARMS FROM WHERE THEY HANG, BOY! YOU --
GRRAAAAA-


THE HELL?

グアアアア！
〈GRAAAAHHH!〉
CRRUNCH
弓士！構え！
〈Archers! Take aim!〉
退却だ！
捕虜を時間稼ぎに使え！
〈Fall back! Let the Oni feed on our prisoners!〉
WHAT ARE THEY?!
SOME KIND OF TROLLS?

うまいぞ！
久しく人が食えるぞ！
〈So long since I've tasted human!〉
血の甘さを忘れかけていだぞ！
色が薄い人間は味が違うのか？
〈Forgot how sweet is the blood! These pale ones... Do they taste different?〉
巨人もいるぞ！
腐る程肉が手に入る！
〈That one is a giant! More meat!〉
弓士！鬼の目を狙え！
〈Archers! Aim for their eyes!〉
奴らの魔法は強力ですぞ、お頭！
〈Their magic is strong, lord!〉
HOLD HIM STEADY!
THUNK
I'VE GOT YOU, FOUL TROLL!
THUNK THUNK
SCCHHHUNK
GURGGGLLEE...
PULL!
HEAVE!
RAAAH! OFF, UGL THING! OFF!

MY ROYAL LEGION FIGHT BRAVELY AND STILL THEY REMAIN TIED LIKE HORSES?
いつまで無礼な口をきく。
<He speaks with disrespect.>
I DON'T THINK THEY CARE WHAT WE DO, CAPTAIN. WE'RE JUST DRAGON FOOD TO THEM.
THEY RISKED THEIR LIVES FOR YOUR MEN! DOES HONOR NOT MATTER TO YOU HERE?!
SWWWISH
SLICE
SLICE

THERE YOU ARE. THIS WILL EASE YOUR PAIN. AND SIP THIS TEA.
SSS...
BANDAGING THE ENEMY ARE WE, GODWIN OF WHITBY?
BAGGI. CONGRATULATIONS ON REMAINING WELL-HIDDEN WHILE THE REST OF US FOUGHT FOR SURVIVAL.
FIGHT SMART, GODWIN, NOT HARD. THE DRAGON BUTCHER MUST HAVE LEARNED THAT LESSON THE HARD WAY. SHAME.
NOT QUITE. WE FOUGHT BRAVELY. A DRAGON.
A DRAGON YOU SAY? TERRIFYING. ASSUMING EVERYONE ELSE ARE LITTLE LUMPS OF CHARCOAL?
SIR CHARLES AND MANY OF THE LEGION LIVE ON. THEY ARE ON AN EXPEDITION WITH OUR CAPTORS SOMEWHERE.
〈Where have they taken the pale prisoners?〉
YOU SPEAK THEIR TONGUE?!
〈To the witches of the mountain. They need dragon's claws and fangs to defeat the serpent who attacked us.〉

WHAT DID HE SAY?
HE DOESN'T KNOW. AND HE WOULDN'T TELL ME IF HE DID.
BAGGI, TALK TO THEM. I NEED MUSTARD SEEDS. FAIRIE MUSTARD SEEDS OR SOMETHING SIMILAR. I CAN DEVISE AN ELUCIDATION SPELL SO THAT WE CAN SPEAK TO THEM.
I THOUGHT DIVINATION WAS AGAINST YOUR VOWS, PRIEST.
CUT THE SHIT, BAGGI. DO YOU WANT TO SURVIVE THIS JOURNEY OR NOT?
OH, I DO. AND I MOST CERTAINLY WILL.
PHHHSHHHHHHHHH...
CHHHHHHARLES...
...BENNETT? BROTHER...?
CHARLESSSSSSSS...

BENNETT? IS THAT YOU? I NEED YOUR WISDOM, MY BROTHER. I NEED YOUR GUIDANCE. WHERE ARE YOU?
SWWWWWSHHHHHHHHHHHH...
MOOOOANNNNN...
HUH?
SAINT AGATHA!

LEAVE HER!
HISSSSS!
<No! Ohhhh!>
OOOOF! UNGH!
CLANG
CRASH
I'LL PROTECT YOU, MA'AM! TAKE CARE!
WHERE DID IT GO?! WHAT WAS THAT THING?
彼を殺さねばならぬ。
<I must kill him!>
違います”
武蔵様！彼は無実なのです！
彼は私が危険にさらされていると思って。
<No, my husband! My love! He did nothing wrong! He thought I was in danger.>
危険？
<In danger?>
彼は私と鼓弥を見つけた時、彼女が…
私を傷つけていると思ったのです。
<He found me and Koya and he thought she was... hurting me.>
I DON'T UNDERSTAND.
お許しください。
ここは陣地からより離れてるかと思っていました。
<Forgive me, We thought we were far from camp.>
しかし、
陣地の場所を知られた以上…
生かしてはおけぬ。
<But now he knows... now he must die.>
武蔵様、彼は本当に良い人なのです。
あなたもそれが見えますでしょう。
彼は銀清姫を打ち倒す手助けのために送られて来たのです。
<No, my lord. He is a good man. I know you believe this. He was sent to help you defeat Gin Kiyohime.>
WAS THAT A FOX? AN EVIL SPRIT? IT WASN'T HURTING YOU...? IT WAS...
こいつの処理は＊私＊が決める。
荷物をまとめろ。
<I will decide what to do with him. Gather your things.>
AFTER HEIDMANN

YOU KNOW ABOUT THAT THING AND...
なんの事を話しているのか全く分からん。
〈I don't understand your words, boy.〉
YOUR WIFE? SHE IS YOUR WIFE, YES?
口を閉ざせ。
〈Stop talking.〉
I'LL STOP TALKING. YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND ANYWAY.
CRUNCH
SNAP
はっ！
〈gasp〉

お待たせしました。
〈The...〉
部隊長が
〈Leader...〉
到着
〈Has...〉

しました。
ARRIVED.

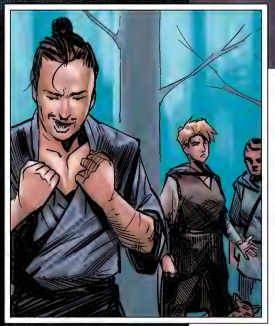
部隊長がおいでなさったとは言えど、
ここの一番のお偉いさんはどちら？
〈The leaders have come. But which one is the leader of the leaders?〉
I TAKE IT THE WITCHES FOUND US.
貴女方は何の…
〈You pay no...〉
…敬意も持っていない。
〈...respect to us.〉
山姥たちよ、
我は真上り光袖の家来、名を真田ムサシと申す。
本部落への敬意を胸にここに参った。
〈Yammauba of the woods. I am Sanada Musashi, servant of my lord and Daimyo Nariagari Mitsusode. We pay our respect to you.〉
成上光袖は我々の土地を汚す、
欲深き蝦蟇。
〈Nariagari Mitsusode deflowers our lands, the greedy toad.〉
ここは貴人方の森ではない。
〈These are not his forests.〉
秘密を隠す場所でもない…
〈You've been keeping secrets in the forests...〉
どうか…頼む事はできないか。
銀清姫がこの大地を荒らしているのは知っているだろう。
求める対価はこちらで用意させてもらう。
討伐の為に手を貸してくれ。
〈Please... I beg of you. We will pay whatever price you require. The great dragon Gin Kiyohime has brought great pain to the land.〉
嘘だ！
苦しみを地にもたらすのは人間の手だ！
竜は白塩の守護者に過ぎない…
あなたたちは…
〈Lies! It is the hands of men who bring great pain to the land! The dragon is just a keeper of the white salts... but you....〉
…何も知らない…
〈...of the earth...〉
…この地のことを…
〈...know nothing...〉

古き者達、この通りだ。
何でも差し上げて見せよう。倒れた竜の牙と爪さえあれば…
我々はあの銀清姫に打ち勝つ光が見えるのだ。
〈Please, ancient ones. We will give you whatever you require. I humbly ask your patience. If you have the teeth and claws from those dragons who have fallen... we may defend ourselves against Gin Kiyohime.〉
竜の牙を求めるか…
〈You seek dragons teeth...〉
そして竜の爪も…
〈And dragon's claws...〉
4本の爪と1本の牙と引き換えに…
〈In exchange for four claws and one fang...〉
我々が選ぶ者1人を差し出せ。
〈You will give us one of your own. Our choosing.〉
お頭！
貴方が選ばれてしまったら。
〈My lord! What if they choose you?〉
その時は、
お前がこの兵たちを率いて銀清姫を打ち倒すのだ。
〈Then you shall lead these men to destroy Gin Kiyohime.〉
どうするかい？お偉いさん。
〈What's your choice, leader?〉
分かった。
それで頼む。
〈So be it.〉
明日、日の出時… 部隊の一人は、
服の背中に緑の四角い＊布＊が縫い付けられているだろう。
そいつが選ばれし者だ。
〈When the sun rises... One of you shall find a green square patch sewn into the back of his shirt. This will be our selection.〉
今は待つがいい…
もうすぐ分かる。
〈Now you wait... and see who it shall be.〉

Knights vs Samurai #6, Cover 'B' by Raymond Gay

〈衰弱しきっているぞ、急げ！〉
〈He's fading. Hurry!〉
THERE WE ARE... JUST A PINCH MORE BORAGE AND... YES.
BAGGI, MAKE YOURSELF USEFUL AND FETCH A MUG OF THAT RICE WINE OF THEIRS. HE'LL NEED A STRONG SIP TO GULP THIS ELIXIR.
...MAKE MYSELF USEFUL, EH? AS YOU COMMAND.
BUBBLE BUBBLE BUBBLE
すすすっ…
÷Sssssssip...÷
THERE YOU ARE.
はあああっ！
÷GASP!÷

〈我らの選択は…〉
〈Our choice has...〉
〈…決まった…〉
〈...been made...〉
〈服の背中をご覧ください…〉
〈Look inside the back of your shirts,...〉
〈赤い布切れのある者が…〉
〈Whomever has a scrap of red cloth within,...〉
〈…我らの竜の骨と引き換えられる…〉
〈...will be our prize to keep in trade for your precious dragon bones,...〉
ははははははは!
Hahahahahahahahah!

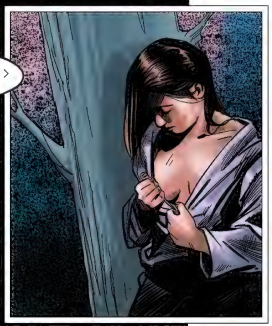


I DON'T UNDERSTAND, SIR. WHAT'S HAPPENING?
SOME KIND OF RITUAL?
PERHAPS.

〈赤い布は縫い付けられているか?〉
〈Do you have the red scrap?〉
〈私には無いぞ!〉
〈Not me!〉

〈私は大丈夫だ!〉
〈I'm in the clear!〉
LOOK INSIDE YOUR SHIRTS. THEY MUST HAVE PUT A SPELL ON SOMEONE OR...
MARKED SOMEONE. THEY MUST HAVE MARKED SOME POOR SOUL.
BUT FOR WHAT?
GOD KNOWS.

〈私も大丈夫だ!〉
〈Clear!〉
〈私にもありません!〉
〈Nothing here!〉



〈何故。。
何故私なんだ。。〉
〈No! Please no!〉

〈我が弟よ、
私は必ず戻ってくる〉
〈Brother, I will return-〉
〈お願いです、兄貴！
置いて行かないでください！〉
〈Please, my brother! Do not leave me with them!〉
〈約束は約束だ。〉
〈A deal is a deal.〉
〈六郎。
貴様の勇気は銀清姫と戦う兵の力となる。〉
〈You must be brave, Rokuro. Your honor will give strength to the men as we face Gin Kiyohime.〉
〈置いて行かないでください！
こんな所に取り残されたら何をされるか!〉
〈Don't leave me! Who knows what horrors they will do to me!〉
〈ああ、大変！〉
〈Oh, the horrors!〉
ヘヘヘヘ！
Heheheheh!
〈静かにしてくれ。
お願いだ。〉
〈Quiet. Please.〉
〈龍を倒した後に、
戻って来ていただけるのでしょうか？〉
〈You will return for me? After you kill the dragon?〉
〈必ず戻る、約束だ。〉
〈I promise, brother.〉

〈兵士たちよ。少々急ぐ必要が出来た。日没前までに銀清姫の洞窟に着くぞ。〉
〈Double time, soldiers. We must reach Gin Kiyohime's cave before sunset.〉
〈HUH...? HOW DO I UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU'RE SAYING?〉
〈あなたは古代の科学の残響に溢れている…〉
〈You are brimming with echoes of The Ancient Science...〉
〈...あなたの身体には、良い血が流れている...〉
〈...You descend from that which you know not...〉
〈まだその力に気づいてもいないようだが....〉
〈You have power yet untapped....〉
〈WHAT IS IT?〉
〈あなたが考えている明快な魔法は、これが不足している…〉
〈The elucidation spell you are scheming is lacking this...〉
〈この光木があれば言語の壁も無くなるでしょう.〉
〈Hahaha! Bister of Light. Will help you hear.〉
〈HELP ME HEAR WHAT?!〉
〈銀清姫はあなたの想像しているような竜ではない..〉
〈Gin Kiyohime is not what you think...〉
PHHHEEEEWWW
YOU'RE NOT GOING WITH THEM?
MRRRRRAAAAARRRR...
〈WAIT! WHAT?! WHERE ARE YOU GOING? COME BACK!〉
FINE. I WOULDN'T WANT TO STAY WITH THEM, EITHER.

〈洞窟の両側を包囲する。
歩兵は洞窟を煙で燻し出し、
射手は鉤爪矢を用意し待機する。〉
〈We will flank either side of the cave. Foot soldiers will smoke out the cave while archers will be at the ready with talon tipped arrows.〉
〈お頭、
太鼓を打てば、
竜を確実に誘き出せるでしょう。〉
〈My lord, if the drummers play the Taiko we will surely lure out the beast.〉
〈聡明だな。
和太鼓を準備せよ！〉
〈Yes. Prepare the Wadaiko!〉
WHAT ARE THEY SAYING?
HOW THE HELL SHOULD HE KNOW? IT'S ALL CROW TO US.
IT'S... UM. I DON'T KNOW.
HYDNELLUM PECKI... DEVIL'S TOOTH AND... A SHAVING OF BISTER OF LIGHT.

〈盾、配置完了！〉
〈太鼓の用意を－〉
〈盾、用意！〉
〈Ready the shields!〉
〈盾！〉
〈Shields!〉
〈射手、用意！〉
〈Prepare the archers!〉
〈射手、配置完了！〉
〈Archers ready!〉
CRACKLE CRACKLE
WELL, LOOK AT THIS... HMMM...
〈和太鼓、準備を－〉
〈Wadaiko, prepare for-〉 DRUMMING! PLAY LIKE THE BEAT OF A DRAGON'S WICKED HEART!
DID HE JUST SPEAK ENGLISH?
I CAN UNDERSTAND THEM! IT WORKED!
HEY, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! I JUST GOT THIS TO--
PLOP
PFFFFFFFTTTTTT
TO WORK. YES, I KNOW. BUT THIS NEW INGREDIENT WILL HELP YOU COMMUNICATE WITH MORE THAN MERELY THE HUMANS.
OH MY...
YOU BETTER HURRY BEFORE THEY ALL GET COOKED BY GIN KIYOHIME.

MY LORD! MY LORD!
IT WORKS! MY ELUCIDATION SPELL WORKS AND--
BOOM BOOM BOOM
STAY BACK!
NO, TRUST ME. PLEASE.
FLETCHER, WHAT ON EARTH ARE YOU--
PFFFFFFFFTTTTTT
LORD. SHE HAS DONE IT. SHE'S RESOLVED THE MOST PERPLEXING OF POTIONS.
YOU UNDERSTAND ME? DON'T YOU?!
HOW IS THIS POSSIBLE?
MAGIC.
RAAAAOOOAAARRR!!!

BOOM BOOM BOOM
I CAN UNDERSTAND YOU! THIS IS INCREDIBLE. MY NAME IS CHARLES WARD AND-
RESPECTFULLY, CHARLES WARD. YOU ARE A NOBLE WARRIOR BUT WE MUST PREPARE.
GIN KIYOHIME IS EMERGING!
ARCHERS! AIM WITH EXACTNESS. FIRE WITH PRECISION. TOMO, YOU WILL FIND HIS-
WAIT!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
FORGIVE ME, LORDS, BUT THE WITCHES ON THE MOUNTAIN, THEY TOLD ME THERE WAS MORE TO THIS DRAGON THAN WE REALIZE.
YOU TRUST THOSE OLD HAGS? AND HOW THE HELL DID YOU COMMUNICATE WITH THEM?
FLETCHER, STOP! THEY'LL KILL YOU!
TRUST ME! I KNOW THIS TO BE TRUE SOMEHOW. IT'S SOMETHING I KNOW FROM WITHIN.
FIIIIIIIIITTTTTTTTT
IT'S UPON US!
PHHHHHHHTTTTTT

YOU FOOL! WE NEED EVERY TALON AND FANG TO KILL THE CREATURE!
SUBDUE THE CLERIC!
MY LORD, I THINK SHE MAY BE-
RRRRAAAAAAAAARRRRRRRR-HMMM?
HUH?
HMMM?
WHAT'S HAPPENING?
YOU SMALL TROLLS SPEAK THE TONGUE OF RYU-O?
YOU... SPEAK?
I SPEAK. YOU SPEAK. NOW ENOUGH SPEAK. I AM HUNGRY.
NO, GREAT ONE! WE HONOR AND SUPPLICATE OURSELVES BEFORE YOU. WE SEEK YOUR UNDERSTANDING AND YOUR GRACE.
THERE IS NO HONOR NOR GRACE AMONG THE FIRE LIZARDS, SIRE. YOU SAW WHAT IT DID TO YOUR CAMP.
DIVINE BEING, I BEG OF YOU. THERE IS SOME TRUTH BETWEEN YOU AND THESE MEN YET UNTAPPED.
HMMMMM... A GREAT LIGHT RESIDES IN THIS ONE. ANCIENT SANCTITY FLOWS WITHIN HER.
TO YOUR CAMP? ON THE SOLEMN LAND? AFTER YOU SENT FIRE STICKS INTO MY HOME? HAHAHA! I WILL SURELY EAT YOU.
I DON'T UNDERSTAND.
GIN KIYOHIME, WE HAVE SEEN YOU SCORCH THE FLESH OF OUR FELLOW MEN-
WHEN YOU THREW FLAME INTO MY HOME! MEN IN YOUR ARMOR WITH YOUR COLORS AS THEY STOLE THE SHANKH FROM MY CAVE.
THE... SHANKH?
THE CONSECRATED FUSION OF THE SEA AND MY SHIT.
LEGENDS TELL OF GREAT FULMINATION AND POWER FROM THE SHANKH.
FORCES ADVANCE FROM THE WEST. THESE WHITE-FACED SOLDIERS. THEY SEEK TO STEAL IT FOR THEIR OWN.
I KNOW NOTHING OF THIS!
I BELIEVE THIS MAN. HE FIGHTS AND BEHAVES WITH HONOR.
AS MANY SOLDIERS DO... IT IS THEIR MASTERS WHO MANEUVER THE DESIGNS. ALL OF YOUR MASTERS.

YOU HAVE SLAIN MY FIVE YOUNG BROTHERS. ALL INNOCENT-
NONE ARE INNOCENT! NOT ONCE HAVE I SLAIN WITHOUT PROVOCATION.
AND NOW MY LAST LIVING BROTHER IS IN CAPTIVITY BECAUSE OF YOU.
I DON'T DEFEND MYSELF TO THE RAPISTS OF THE EARTH. YOUR MASTER SPREADS HIS SETTLEMENTS ACROSS THE NORTH. HE KILLS THE AINU PEOPLE. FOR WHOM?
I SERVE MY GREAT MASTER AND MY MASTER SEEKS YOUR HEAD.
THERE ARE GREAT HUMANS ON THIS LAND. YOUR MASTER IS NOT ONE. HE DESIRES THE SHANKH EVEN THOUGH HE KNOWS THE PRICE.
WHAT PRICE?
TO INFLAME THE SHANKH CAN CAUSE IRREPARABLE DAMAGE TO THE AIR. THE WATER. THE SOIL. YOUR HUMAN OFFSPRING... IT IS NOT MEANT FOR WHAT HE SEEKS.
ACCORDING TO THE SACRED TEXTS... THIS IS ALL TRUE, MY LORD.

GIN KIYOHIME, YOU HAVE SLAIN, AND TERRORIZED...
SNORT
MY LORD-
BUT I WILL COMMUNICATE WHAT I HAVE LEARNED TO MY HATAMOTO, TOMOYA-SAN. HE WILL DECIDE HOW TO CONVEY THIS INFORMATION TO OUR GREAT MASTER, NARIAGARI MITSUSODE.
LORD TOMOYA, WELCOME TO SARUFUTSU. WE SEEK YOUR WISDOM-

SILENCE! YOU HAVE FAILED IN YOUR MISSION AND YOU HAVE COMPROMISED THE ORDERS OF YOUR LORD AND SOVEREIGN, NARIAGARI MITSUSODE.
MY LORD, I ASSURE YOU WE ARE CAPABLE NOW OF DESTROYING THE BEAST. BUT I HAVE SPOKEN TO THE DRAGON AND IT--
HAHAHAHAH! YOU ARE NOT ONLY WEAK, MUSASHI SAN, YOU ARE AN IMBECILE!
I SPEAK THE TRUTH.
THE TRUTH?! THE TRUTH, YOU COWARD, IS THAT YOU LET THESE DAIKON FACED INTERLOPERS LIVE! YOU LET THEIR WIZARD POISON YOUR OWN MEN!
GAAAAAHHHHHH!
NO!
GODWIN!

MY LORD, THESE SOLDIERS HAVE HELPED US TO CONFRONT GIN KIYOHIME AND THEIR CLERIC HAS CONJURED A SPELL OF-
SPELL-CASTERS?! MILK-FACED GIANTS?
HE'S TALKING ABOUT YOU.
I ALWAYS QUESTIONED YOUR SKILL, MUSASHI SAN, BUT NEVER YOUR LOYALTY. UNTIL NOW.
FORGIVE ME, MY LORD.
BY ORDER OF NARIAGARI MITSUSODE, THE GREAT BLACK BEAR, OUR LORD AND DAIMYO, IT IS DECREED... FAILURE OF CLAN LEADERS TO FULFILL MILITARY DUTY SHALL BE PUNISHABLE BY DEATH. ANY WHO HAVE SERVED UNDER A FAILED LEADER SHALL, CORRESPONDINGLY, BE SUBJECT TO EXECUTION. THIS IS THE PATH OF EMINENCE. SO SAYETH THE GREAT BLACK BEAR.

CLANG
AHHHHHHHHEEEEE!
OOOOF!
WULFHELM!
GIVE HER YOUR FLASK OF RICE WINE!
WHAT?!
JUST DO IT!

HAAAAAAAAAAAEEEEE!
SLASH
SPLORCH
WHAT IS THAT?!
IT'S AN EVIL SPIRIT!
KRNCH
HEARD HE COULD DO THAT.

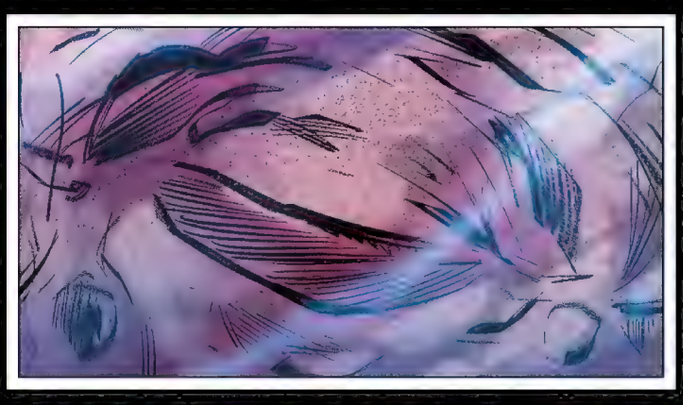
SPARE HER FACE!
I WANT TO KEEP HER FOR MY OWN AFTER I KILL HER FEEBLE HUSBAND!
ROOOAAAARRRR!
HIM, TOO?!
:GASP!:
SKARUNCH

NO SURRENDER! WE WILL DEFEAT THEM!
FIGHT FEARLESSLY! THEY ARE ON THEIR HEELS!

HURAAAAAHHH!
WITH MIGHT AND MAGIC AND COURAGE AND... BEASTS WE HAVE PROVEN OUR STEAD. WE LIVE TO FIGHT ANOTHER DAY.
MY LORD, TOMOYA SAN HAS A FORCE OF ONE THOUSAND MEN AND THEY MARCH THIS WAY. THEY ARE LESS THAN AN HOUR FROM ARRIVAL.
RRRAAARRR... WE MUSSSSST... FIGHT.
MY LORD, IT IS ONE THOUSAND MEN.
BUT WE HAVE SOMETHING THEY HAVEN'T.
A VESSEL. THERE ARE NO MORE THAN FIFTY OF US NOW COMBINED. MY SHIP CAN CARRY US SAFELY FROM THIS PLACE TO REGROUP AND FORM A PLAN.
HMM.
YES, MY LOVE.

DOUBLE TIME NOW!
THEY'LL BE HERE SOON!
AHHHHHHHHHH!
RUNNING AWAY? SO YOUR COMPATRIOTS ARE NO LONGER YOUR ALLIES?
GIN KIYOHIME. WE HAVE NO EVIDENCE OF WHAT YOU SAY ABOUT THIS SO-CALLED SHANKH. BUT BECAUSE I FAILED TO KILL YOU, NARIAGARI MITSUSODE NOW CALLS FOR MY HEAD.
THEY WILL COME FOR MY HOME SOON. YOUR UNDERSTANDING IS LIMITED BUT YOU ARE NOW ALIGNED WITH THE ETERNAL PURE. YOU SHALL BE REWARDED.
FAREWELL, DRAGON.
I WILL SEE YOU AGAIN, TIGER LORD. I AM CERTAIN OF IT.

I HAVE SAID THE ANCIENT RITES, MY LORD. HE IS AT PEACE.
YOU WANT HIM BACK?
WHAT?
ONCE A YEAR I CAN RESURRECT A SINGLE THING THAT ONCE WAS LIVING AND NOW IS... NOT.
BY WHAT POWER?
BY MY OWN POWER. I'M CALLED FUKU. AND I CAN RAISE THE DEAD. ONCE A YEAR. SO...?
I CANNOT HELP... BUT HEAR THAT YOU ARE BEING TRUTHFUL. NOT FOR MY DEAR FRIEND GODWIN OF WHITBY, BUT FOR THE SOURCE OF WISDOM AND STRENGTH I NEED.
MY LORD, I DON'T THINK-
MY BROTHER, BENNETT. IF HE WERE HERE, I WOULD KNOW WHAT NEXT STEPS ARE TO BE TAKEN.
SIGHS SEE, MY LORD. I DON'T THINK THIS CAT IS A NECROMANCER. I THINK IT IS A ROGUE. BUT I LIKE IT.
hmmf.



KNIGHTS® VS SAMURAI

COVER GALLERY

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TWO EMPIRES BOUND BY CODES. DIVIDED BY COLD STEEL.

Sir Charles Ward, known as "**The Dragon Butcher**," has earned knighthood while leading a band of royal warriors on a noble quest. Yet, he grapples with self-doubt and sorrow. His journey to a mysterious island in the Far East involves a diverse group of fighters, including a giant and two clerics, seeking revenge against the creatures that attacked English missionaries. Upon arrival, Charles finds that the so-called "savage monsters" are actually a formidable regiment of warriors unlike any he has faced before.

Writer **David Dastmalchian** praises **Federico Mele's** vivid visual portrayal of the characters from England and Japan as they confront various mythological beings. Under **Todd McFarlane's** mentorship, this adventure is brimming with magic and conflict. With consultant **Thersa Matsuura** (of Uncanny Japan), the narrative promises an unprecedented clash and connection between the feudal cultures of England and Japan.

KNIGHTS vs. SAMURAI
collects issues 1 - 6 written by the outstanding David Dastmalchian and interior art by the fantastic Federico Mele.

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